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- Ann Vanderslice has been hired by the NOAA as an instructor to educate participants on planning for retirement
- This program is for educational purposes only and no financial services or products will be presented You will not be asked to share your personal financial information, now will anyone contact you after this class for the purpose of selling financial products or services
- Certain hypothetical examples will be presented today and are not intended to pertain specifically to anyone in attendance
- Ann Vanderslice is a registered representative of Cabot Lodge Securities, LLC and an Individual Advisory Representative of CL Wealth Management. Ann Vanderslice, Retirement Planning Strategies, and Cabot Lodge Securities, LLC and Cabot Lodge Wealth Management are unaffiliated entities



Maximizing Your Federal CSRS Benefits

Presented for:
NOAA
Boulder, CO
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Presenter: Ann Vanderslice

Ann Vanderslice is a registered representative of Cabot Lodge Securities LLC, and an Individual Advisory Representative of CL Wealth Management. Ann Vanderslice, Retirement Planning Strategies, and Cabot Lodge Securities, LLC and Cabot Lodge Wealth management are unaffiliated entities.





6 Areas Where Congress Tried To Squeeze Federal Benefits in 2015

- 1. Retirement Contributions Proposed to increase retirement contributions from .8% to 6.35%
- 2. FERS Supplement The FERS Supplement would be phased out
- **3. Thrift Savings Plan -** The current interest rate paid on the G Fund would be reduced to approximate money market-like funds.***
- **4. Hiring Freeze -** For every 3 federal employees who left or retired, only one could be replaced.
- **5. FEHB Increases -** The government's share of federal employee health premiums would decrease over time by tying premium increases to a CPI
- **6. Civil Service Protections -** Lawmakers looked to hold federal executive responsible for actions and loosen firing process.
- *** The current highway transportation bill in Congress includes this provision.



Getting and Keeping Important Documents Together



FERS Magic Numbers



When Can You Retire?



You're Eligible to Retire - Now What?



How Much Will Your Pension Be?



If You're Married, Should You Take Survivor Benefits?



What If You Become Disabled Before Retirement?



When Should You Collect Social Security?



Do you Get Raises In Retirement?



What Are Your Choices in TSP While You're Working?



Understanding the Impact of Your TSP in Retirement



The Best Benefit You May

Have Never Heard Of
Voluntary Contribution Program



How to Choose the Best Health Plan for You and Your Family



Maximizing the Value of the Flexible Spending Account



Coordinating FEHB and Medicare



How FEGLI Works for You



FLTCIP 2.0 - The Longest Acronym in Federal Benefits



Tax Implications While Working



Assuming you intend to retire at age 65, you should aim to accumulate savings equal to:

- A. 2 times your final annual salary
- B. 5 times your final annual salary
- C. 10 times your final annual salary
- D. 20 times your final annual salary



Assuming you intend to retire at age 65, you should aim to accumulate savings equal to:

C. 10 times your final annual salary





It doesn't matter how old you are when you begin to take your Social Security benefits. You get the same amount no matter your age.

- A. True
- B. False





It doesn't matter how old you are when you begin to take your Social Security benefits. You get the same amount no matter your age.

B. False



If an individual needed long-term care today, what would be the average annual cost for a private room in a nursing home?

A. \$44,000

B. \$63,000

C. \$72,000

D. \$84,000





If an individual needed long-term care today, what would be the average annual cost for a private room in a nursing home?

D. \$84,000





How much should you withdraw from your portfolio in your first year of retirement?

A. 3%

B. 4%

C. 5%

D. 6%



How much should you withdraw from your portfolio in your first year of retirement?

B. 4%



How often should you rebalance your retirement portfolio?

- A. Monthly
- B. Quarterly
- C. Annually
- D. Every 2 years





How often should you rebalance your retirement portfolio?

C. Annually





Important Documents

Certified Copy of Birth Certificate

DD214 – Certifies Military Service

SF-50's – Official Personnel File

Social Security Statement

Marriage Certificate (if married)

Divorce Decree (if divorced)

Receipts for any Deposits/Redeposits made

Beneficiary Forms

Last Paycheck – SF 1152

FEGLI – SF 2823

Annuity (if single) - SF 2808 (CSRS)

Thrift Savings Plan – TSP 3







Most Common Reasons for Retirement Processing Delays

Part-time service is involved.

Service has been refunded or a deposit for service is needed.

Receipt of workers' compensation is indicated.

Military retirement pay is involved.

Unpaid military deposits are present.

Excess leave without pay (defined as more than six months) is present on the record.

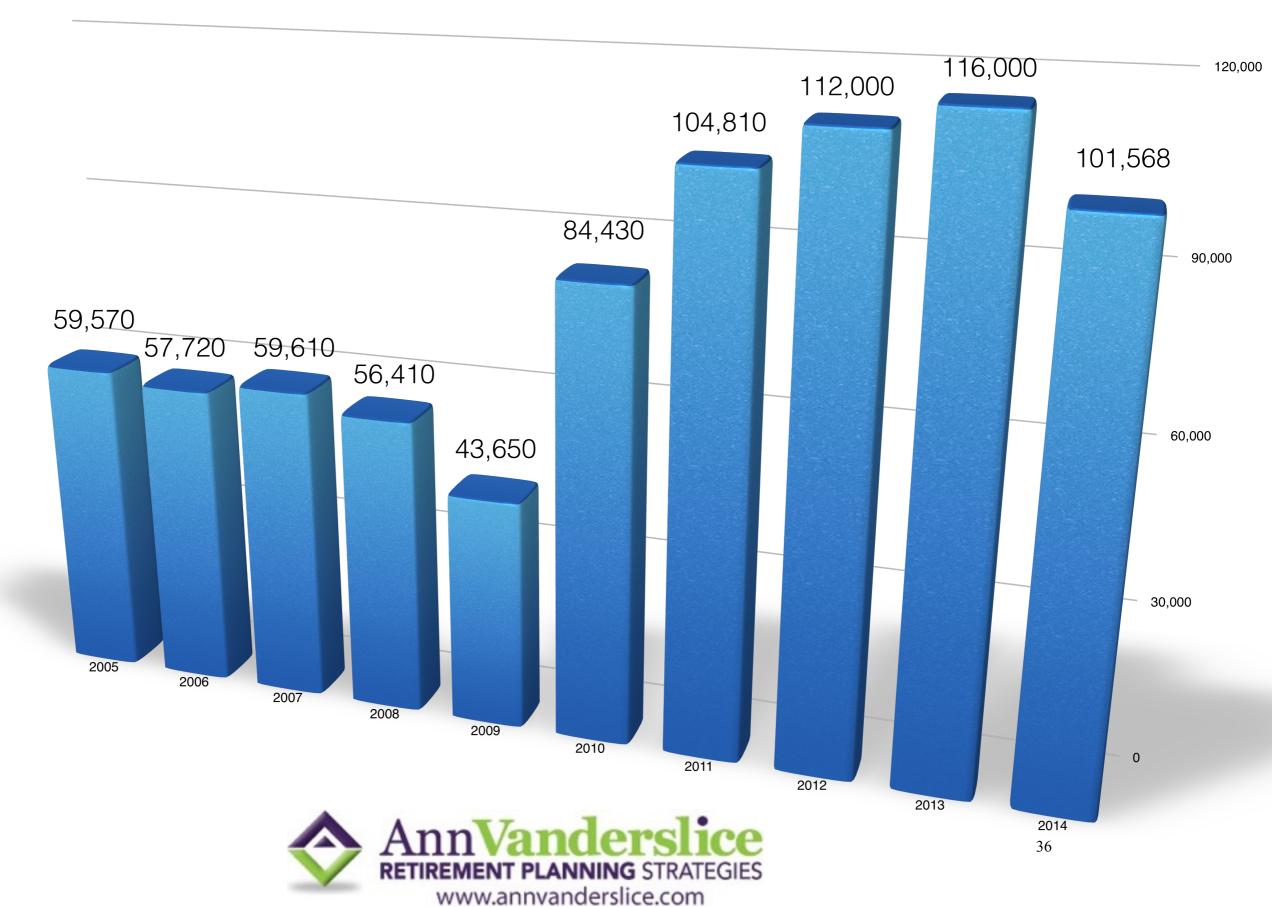
The employees has elected an insurable interest (a survivor benefit option available under the Federal Employees Retirement System)

No survivor election is made. (Remember- even if you are unmarried at the time or retirement, don't leave this section of the retirement application blank.) .

The submission by the agency is incomplete and is missing key data needed for calculating interim payments. According to OPM, 23 percent of all claims received are missing one or more records



Number of Federal Retirements



Ages

35 = Free FEGLI begins to reduce from double benefit



- **45** = Free FEGLI double benefit ends
- 55 = Earliest age to retire on unreduced annuity FEGLI premiums for Options A and B increase significantly Access to TSP without 10% excise penalty if you separate or retire



Ages

59 1/2 = Access to TSP Funds for one-time withdrawal if still working Penalty-free access to IRA's, 401(k)'s, etc.



- **62** = Earliest eligibility for Social Security benefits
- **65** = Eligible for Medicare
- **70** = Latest eligibility for Social Security benefits from taxqualified accounts (TSP, IRA's)
- $70 \, 1/2$ = Must begin taking at least minimum withdrawals



Years of Service

30 years – needed to qualify for unreduced annuity if younger than age 60



5 years – least amount of years you can work and qualify for an annuity



Savings Amount Needed At Retirement

\$1,000,000





Rule of Thumb - 10%

Amount you need to save each year to have a comfortable supplement to your federal pension at retirement



CSRS and **CSRS** Offset

CSRS

Employees hired prior to 1/1/1984 who have at least 5 years of service at 1/1/87

Contribute 7% of pay to Civil Service Retirement System



CSRS - Offset

CSRS Offset

All federal employees hired after 12/31/1983 are required to pay into Social Security

CSRS employees with a break in service of 1+ year with at least 5 years of prior CSRS employment who are rehired after 12/31/1983

Contribute 7% of pay which is divided between:

6.2% to Social Security

.8% to CSRS

Pension benefits are reduced at age 62 by portion of Social Security earned as a federal employee



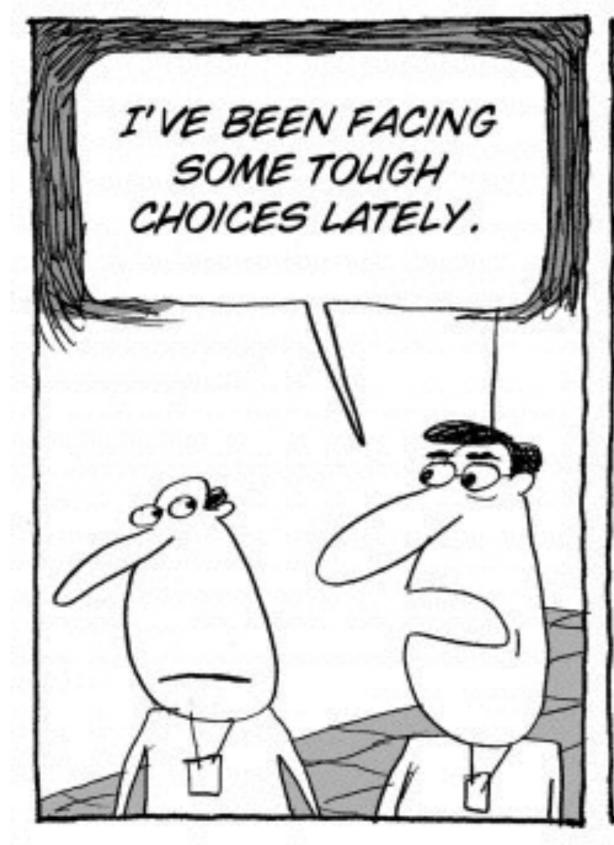
CSRS - Retiring On an Immediate, Unreduced Annuity

Age	Years of Service
55	30
60	20
62	5

Involuntary Early Out With Reduction - VERA = 1/6 of 1% for each month employee retires prior to age 55 (2% per year)

Age	Years of Service
50	20
Any age	25







Best Dates to Retire

- The last day of the month or the first three days of a new month
- End of a pay period
 - Accrue sick and annual leave for that pay period
- Last day of the year
 - Rollover maximum annual leave
 - Receive COLA on payout of annual leave
 - Pay taxes in new year



Best Dates to Retire -2015 CSRS

December 31, 2015 – Best of the Best

July 31 August 28 October 2 or 30 November 3



Components to Calculate Federal Annuity

Years of Service Based on **Retirement** Service Computation Date

High 3 Average Salary

% Formula Based on Years of Service



Retirement Service Computation Date

Based on time between appointment and separation where deductions are withheld. It includes:

Leave without pay (up to six months/calendar year)

Part-time service

- Full credit for eligibility – prorated for annuity computation

Intermittent days worked (WAE 260-day year)

Military service/Deposits/Re-deposits (SF 2803)



Can Stock Photo - csp6976154



CSRS - Buying Back Military Time To Add To Your Creditable Service

Employee Under CSRS Before 10/1/1982

- Make Deposit of 7% of Basic Pay + Interest = Credit for eligibility and annuity
- Do Not Make Deposit and Are Not Eligible for Social Security = Credit for eligibility and annuity
- Do Not Make Deposit and Are Eligible for Social Security at Age 62 = Credit for eligibility but no credit for annuity after age 62

Employee Under CSRS On/After 10/1/1982

Deposit Required = No deposit – No Credit for eligibility or annuity



Deposits

For Service Prior to 10-1-1982:

Deposit Made = 100% for eligibility and annuity computation

Deposit Not Made = 100% for eligibility and annuity reduced by 10% of deposit due

For Service After 10-1-1982:

Deposit Made = 100% for eligibility and annuity computation

Deposit Not Made = 100% for eligibility and NO credit for annuity computation





Re-deposits

- Contributions Not Refunded:
- 100% for eligibility and annuity computation
- Contributions Refunded:
- Re-deposit made = 100% for eligibility and annuity computation
- Re-deposit NOT made and service ended before 3-1-1991 = 100% for eligibility and annuity actuarially reduced
- Re-deposit NOT made and service ended after 2-28-1991 = 100% for eligibility and NO credit for annuity computation



Part-time Service

Any part-time service prior to April 7, 1986 counts 100% toward eligibility and annuity calculation

Any part-time service after April 7, 1986 counts 100% toward eligibility *but* is prorated for annuity calculation



Annual Leave

Employee Type	Less than 3 years of service*	3 years but less than 15 years of service*	15 or more years of service*
Full-time employees	½ day (4 hours) for each pay period	3/4 day (6 hours) for each pay period, except 1 ¹ / ₄ day (10 hours) in last pay period	1 day (8 hours) for each pay period
Part-time employees**	1 hour of annual leave for each 20 hours in a pay status	1 hour of annual leave for each 13 hours in a pay status	1 hour of annual leave for each 10 hours in a pay status

- > Can carryover up to 240 hours of unused leave per year
- > Paid out as lump sum for any unused hours at retirement



Sick Leave

Accrue 4 hour per pay period for sick leave. 100% of their sick leave is convertible for creditable service for annuity calculation purposes.





Sick Leave Chart

# of Days	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Months											
	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
0	0	174	348	522	696	870	1044	1217	1391	1565	1739	1913
1	6	180	354	528	701	875	1049	1223	1397	1571	1745	1919
2	12	186	359	533	707	881	1055	1229	1403	1577	1751	1925
3	17	191	365	539	713	887	1061	1235	1409	1583	1757	1930
4	23	197	371	545	719	893	1067	1241	1415	1588	1762	1936
5	29	203	377	551	725	899	1072	1246	1420	1594	1768	1942
6	35	209	383	557	730	904	1078	1252	1426	1600	1774	1948
7	41	214	388	562	736	910	1084	1258	1432	1606	1780	1954
8	46	220	394	568	742	916	1090	1264	1438	1612	1786	1959
9	52	226	400	574	748	922	1096	1270	1444	1617	1791	1965
10	58	232	406	580	754	928	1101	1275	1449	1623	1797	1971
11	64	238	412	586	759	933	1107	1281	1455	1629	1803	1977
12	70	243	417	591	765	939	1113	1287	1461	1635	1809	1983
13	75	249	423	597	771	945	1119	1293	1467	1641	1815	1988
14	81	255	429	603	777	951	1125	1299	1472	1646	1820	1994
15	87	261	435	609	783	957	1131	1304	1478	1652	1826	2000
16	93	267	441	615	788	962	1136	1310	1484	1658	1832	2006
17	99	272	446	620	794	968	1142	1316	1490	1664	1838	2012
18	104	278	452	626	800	974	1148	1322	1496	1670	1844	2017
19	110	284	458	632	806	980	1154	1328	1501	1675	1849	2023
20	116	290	464	638	812	986	1159	1333	1507	1681	1855	2029
21	122	296	470	643	817	991	1165	1339	1513	1687	1861	2035
22	128	301	475	649	823	997	1171	1345	1519	1693	1867	2041
23	133	307	481	655	829	1003	1177	1351	1525	1699	1873	2046
24	139	313	487	661	835	1009	1183	1357	1530	1704	1878	2052
25	145	319	493	667	841	1015	1189	1362	1536	1710	1884	2058
26	151	325	499	672	846	1020	1194	1368	1542	1716	1890	2064
27	157	330	504	678	852	1026	1200	1374	1548	1722	1896	2070
28	162	336	510	684	858	1032	1206	1380	1554	1728	1902	2075
29	168	342	516	690	864	1038	1212	1386	1559	1733	1907	2081

1,194 Hours

Creditable Service Calculation

	Year	Month	Day	
Planned Retirement Date	2015	12	_31_	
Retirement SCD	1985	7	_27_	
Creditable Service	30	5	4_	
Unused Sick Leave		6	_26_	0 Days Left Over!
Total Creditable Service	31_			



Sick Leave Chart

# of Days	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Months											
	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
0	0	174	348	522	696	870	1044	1217	1391	1565	1739	1913
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29	168	342	516	690	864	1038	1212	1386	1559	1733	1907	2081

1,194 Hours

Calculating Your CSRS Annuity

Years of Service X High 3 Average X % Formula = Annual Annuity

 $1^{st} 5 \text{ years} = 5 \text{ X } 1.5\% \text{ x High } 3 = 7.5\%$

 $2^{\text{nd}} 5 \text{ years} = 5 \text{ X } 1.75\% \text{ x High } 3 = 8.75\%$

Add'l years = # of years X 2% x High 3

At 30 years of service = 56.25% of High 3

Maximum benefit = 41 years / 11 months = 80%

Sick leave counts toward your Years of Service for annuity computation but cannot be counted for eligibility



Calculating Your CSRS Annuity

Quick Calc:

(Number of years/months of service -2) X 2 + .25 = %

Example: 31 years = 31 - 2 = 29

$$29 \times 2 = 58 + .25 = 58.25\%$$



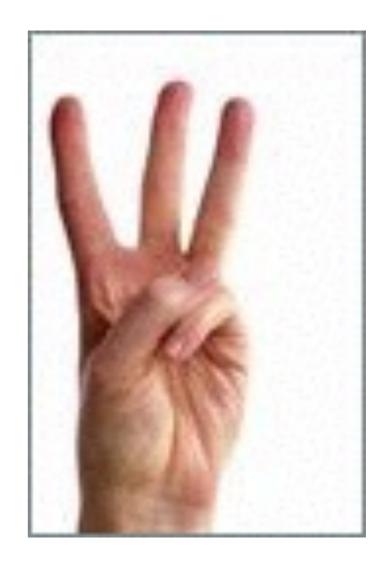
High 3 Average

Average of your base + locality pay over any 3 consecutive

years of creditable service

Does NOT include:

Bonuses
Overtime
Military Pay
Cash Awards
Holiday Pay
Travel Pay





High-3 Calculation

Year	Salary	
2013	79,219	
2014	80,011	Add last three years together
2015	80,811	and divide by 3 \$80,013
2016		
2017		



Annuity Calculation

High-3 Average ______\$80,013

Creditable Service % _____.5825

= Annual Annuity \$46,607

/ 12 = Monthly Annuity <u>\$3,883</u>

Present Value - \$898,716



CSRS Survivor Benefits

Provides 0% - 55% of annuity at a cost of \$1-~10%

Available to:

Current spouse

Former spouse

Insurable interest

Minor children

MUST keep at least minimal survivor benefit to allow spouse to continue health benefits if employee passes away



Disability Retirement

No longer able to perform in your position and not qualified for any other position in same location at same grade/pay

May earn up to 80% of fed pay in private sector job

Health and life insurance continue if previously insured for 5 years

Must have at least 5 years creditable service to apply

Employee (or agency, guardian, or interested person if incapacitated) must apply for benefits



Disability Retirement

Benefits are calculated as follows:

Guaranteed = lesser of annuity based on High-3 average salary and creditable service as of retirement date + years to age 60

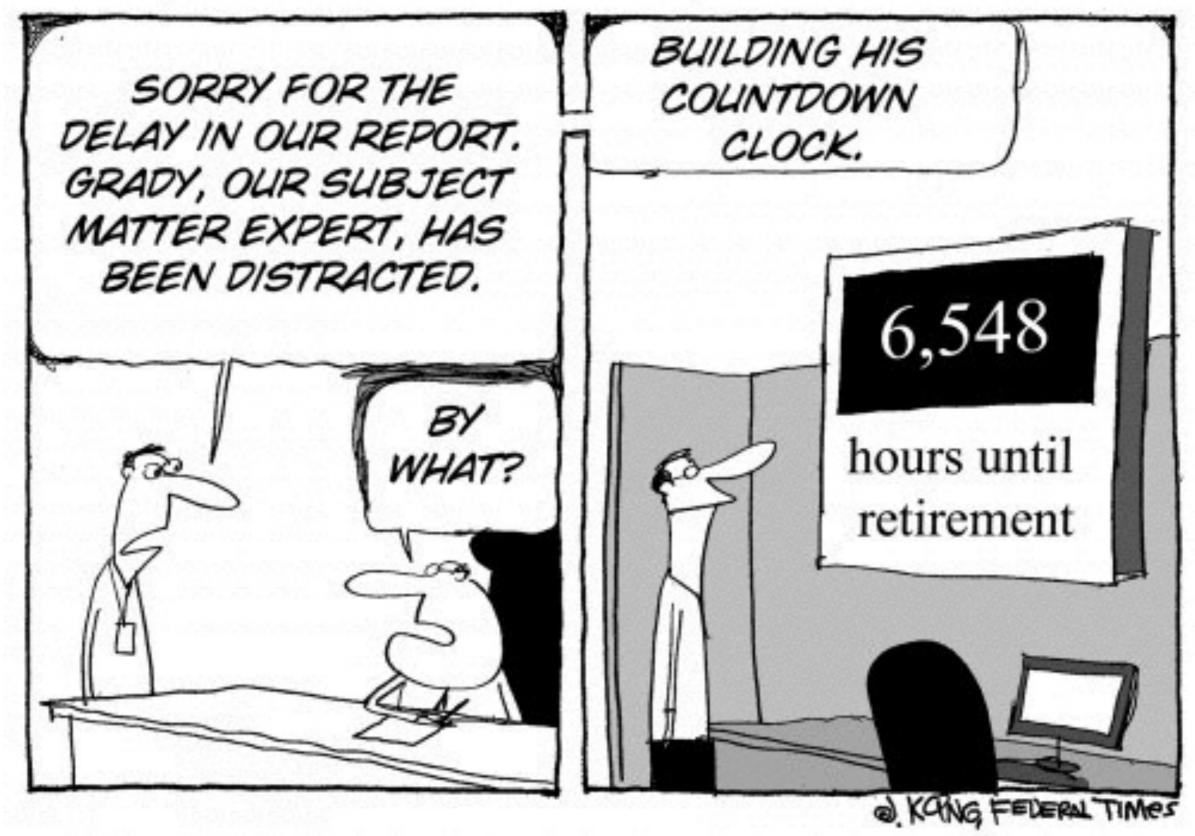
OR

40% of High-3 average salary

OR

Actual earned annuity, if greater 22 years of service





Phased-in Retirement Background

Federal workforce is aging - average age is 47 ~25% of current workforce is eligible to retire Within just a few years 40% will be eligible to retire In 2012, Congress passed law to allow phased-in retirement

OPM spent last 12 months implementing rules



How It Works

Participation is voluntary from both sides

Employees eligible to retire can apply for phasedin retirement and if agency agrees - they may participate

Employee must have worked full-time for 3 years prior to applying

Employee works part-time and receives proportionate parts of their salary and pension Currently designed to be 20-hour week



Eligibility

Under CSRS/CSRS Offset must be 55 with 30 YOS or 60 with 20 YOS
Under FERS must have MRA with 30 YOS or 60 with 20 YOS (excludes 62 with 5 YOS)
Cannot be part of VERA, disability, discontinued service or deferred retirement LEO, Firefighters, ATC are excluded





Effect on Benefits

Phased-in Retirees are:

subject to civil service retirement deductions, Social Security payroll taxes and Medicare payroll taxes on the same terms as they were as full-time employees; considered to be active employees, not retirees, for purposes of Thrift Savings Plan investment, loan and withdrawal policies; and

allowed to continue to invest through the voluntary contributions program available under CSRS.

allowed to keep the same standard insurance coverage



Phased-In Retirement Annuity

At retirement pension benefits are calculated as if fully retired except unused sick leave is NOT credited.

Half this amount is payable during phased-in retirement.

No survivor benefits are computed on the pension. Any death would be considered a death in service.

The annuity portion is adjusted annually for any COLA awarded to retirees.

Employee may retire at any time. Full annuity will be recalculated to include sick leave and additional time of service. Survivor benefits may be elected at this time.



Cost of Living Adjustments

Prior to retirement based on amount approved in legislation by Congress each year. After retirement:

% Increase of Consumer Price Index for Urban and Clerical Wage Earners as measured monthly by the Department of Labor

Effective December 1/appears on January 1 annuity payment

Prorated if you retire in middle of year

2009 COLA = 5.8% 2010 COLA = 0% 2011 COLA = 0% 2012 COLA = 3.6%

2013 COLA = 1.7% 2014 COLA = 1.5% 2015 COLA = 1.7%



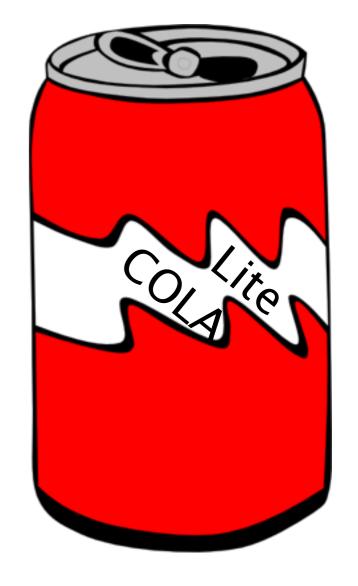
What impact would chained COLA have on your retirement income?

http://www.narfe.org/legislation/calculator.cfm

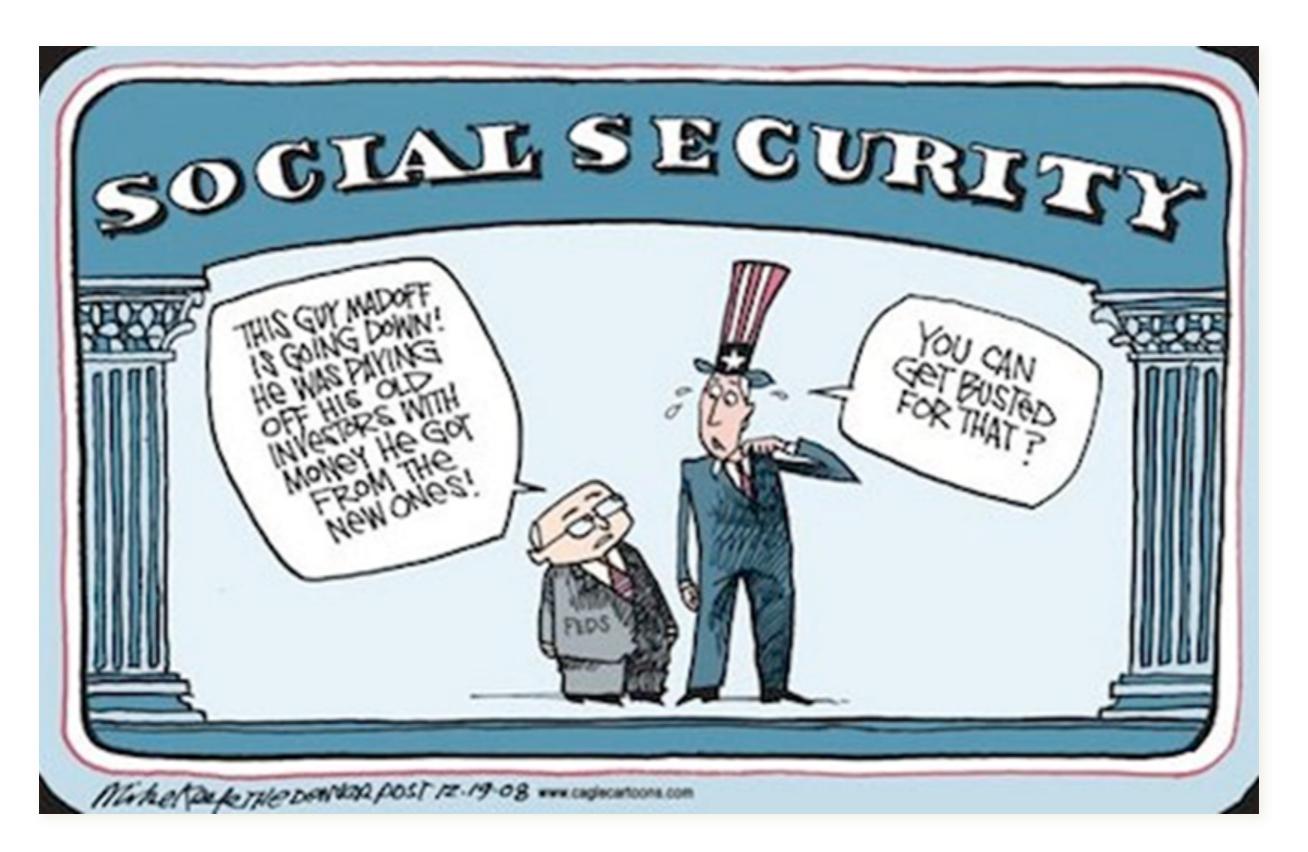
On \$50,000 pension over 5 years you would lose \$2,426

On \$50,000 pension over 10 years you would lose \$9,788

On \$50,000 pension over 15 years you would lose \$23,518







CSRS Offset @ 62

CSRS annuity is reduced by the lesser of:

The difference between Social Security benefit calculated with and without the Offset years

OR

Social Security benefit as estimated at 62 (OR your retirement age if past 62) multiplied by the number of Offset years divided by 40



Become eligible by earning 40 "credits"
Receive full benefits based on year you were born

Birth Year	Full Benefits	Birth Year	Full Benefits
1937	65	1943-1954	66
1938	65 + 2 mos	1955	66 + 2 mos
1939	65 + 4 mos	1956	66 + 4 mos
1940	65 + 6 mos	1957	66 + 6 mos
1941	65 + 8 mos	1958	66 + 8 mos
1942	65 + 10 mos	1959	66 + 10 mos
		1960 +	67



Other members of your family may receive benefits based on your work history:

Spouse: 50% of yours or 100% of their own (whichever is higher)

Child (up to age 18): 50%

Former spouse:

- Married at least 10 years
- Age 62



- Your survivors may also be eligible to receive benefits on your work history:
- Spouse you've been married to for at least 9 months who is age 60 or older
- Child under age 18 (19 if still in school) or any age if disabled before age 18
- Former spouse you were married to for at least 10 years



By delaying taking Social Security until your full retirement age, you can increase your benefits by 20% - 30%. You'll get an additional 8% for each year you wait up to age 70.



Benefits are based on Average Indexed Monthly Earnings "AIME"

Formula for calculating your benefits:

90% of first \$791 AIME Plus

32% of AIME from \$791-\$4,768 Plus

15% of AIME over \$4,768

Earnings limit before full retirement age = \$15,480* (For every \$2 over you give back \$1)

Year of full retirement age = \$41,400* (For every \$3 over you give back \$1)

* 2014 Limits



Social Security Benefits and Your Federal Annuity

The Windfall Elimination Provision was enacted in 1986 to cause people eligible for both a pension based on non-covered employment (e.g., CSRS, CSRS Offset and FERS Transferees employees) and Social Security to have their Social Security calculated using a different formula.

The main exclusion is for workers with more than 30 years of substantial earnings under Social Security.



Windfall Elimination Provision

Substantial Earnings Years	Replacement Factor
30 years	90%
29 years	85%
28 years	80%
27 years	75%
26 years	70%
25 years	65%
24 years	60%
23 years	55%
22 years	50%
21 years	45%
20 years	40%



Government Pension Offset

If you can't have your own Social Security benefit – can you get your spouse's?

To determine eligibility, subtract 2/3 of government pension from spouse's Social Security benefit. If the answer is greater than zero, you are eligible for that benefit.



Government Pension Offset

Spouse's Social Security Benefit	\$1,340
Your Federal Annuity Benefit (\$3,000)x .66%	(\$1,980)
	(\$ 640)
You are eligible for	0



MAN, IT SEEMS LIKE CONGRESS WANTS TO BALANCE THE WHOLE DEFICIT ON OUR BACKS.

> YEAH, WITH FURLOUGHS, PAY FREEZES, PENSION CUTS, YOU NAME IT.



BUT I REALLY THINK HALLWAY TOLLS ARE GOING TOO FAR.



A Short History of the TSP

Implemented in April 1987

S and I Funds added in May 2001

Everyone could participate up to IRS limits in 2005

Largest defined contribution plan in the US with \$454* Billion in assets (of which \$1.2 billion is Roth TSP), ~4.6 million participants (238K use Roth) with 87% of FERS employees participating

* as of 4/30/2015 Source: www.frtib.gov and www.tsp.gov



Advantages of TSP

Automatic payroll deductions

A diversified choice of investment options

A choice of tax treatments for your contributions:

Traditional (pre-tax) contributions and tax-deferred investment earnings, and

Roth (after-tax) contributions with tax-free earnings at retirement if you satisfy the IRS requirements

The TSP website has a contribution comparison calculator for traditional and Roth contributions: www.tsp.gov/planningtools/contributioncomparison/

contributioncomparison.shtml

www.tsp.gov/PDF/formspubs/tsplf30.pdf contains more information about the TSP Roth



Interesting Stats

- 30% of federal workforce spends their entire career as a fed
- 7% of federal workforce is under age 30 vs. 1975 when 20% were under 30
- In 2015, only 3% of federal workforce is CSRS
- There are 1.5 million CSRS retirees only 391K FERS retirees
- The majority of retirees are age 60-70 but 1,295 are over 100!
- 200,000 participants contributed the maximum amount to TSP
- 40 of TSP millionaires used only L Funds, 68 used combination of L and core funds and remainder used only core funds
- Total agency contributions in 2014 \$7,869,460,000
- Average employee contribution ~\$5,000



Interesting TSP Stats

4,167 TSP "millionaires" - 1 with \$4.8 million! (was 208 at start of 2012 - up more than 20 times in 3 years)*

Account Balance	Number of Participants	
Under \$50,000	2,798,455	
\$50,000 - \$249,999	1,426,098	
\$250,000 - \$499,999	375,472 Average time in plan - 11.6 years	
\$500,000 - \$749,999	95,664	
\$750,000 - \$999,999	21,485	
\$1,000,000 and over	4,167 Average time in plan - 25.5 years	



What's Happening With TSP

Four provisions in Tobacco Act of 2009 affected TSP:

Creation of Roth TSP - May 2012

Automatic enrollment for new federal employees

New survivorship options

Option to create mutual fund choices for investment - TSP has opened a "mutual fund window" to determine whether it makes sense to offer any mutual fund options

Updated <u>www.tsp.gov</u> website!



Comparison of Roth IRA and Roth TSP

Anyone that is eligible to contribute to TSP is also eligible to contribute to Roth TSP

No income limitations for contributing to Roth TSP

Combined total of Roth TSP and Traditional TSP cannot exceed \$18,000 and catch-up of \$6,000, if age 50 or above

You can contribute the maximum to Roth TSP as well as the maximum to an individual Roth IRA; however, there are income restrictions for a Roth IRA

Interfund transfers, contribution elections, withdrawals, and loans will apply to both TSP and Roth TSP proportionately

You cannot currently convert TSP funds into Roth TSP - it is being considered

You can transfer a Roth 401(k), Roth 403(b) and Roth 457(b) into Roth TSP but **NOT** a Roth IRA



Comparison of Roth IRA and Roth TSP

Similarities:

Contributions are made with after-tax dollars and can be withdrawn income tax-free if you are age 59 1/2 and follow the 5-year rule,

Paying the tax in today's known tax environment may prove to be a valuable tool during retirement.

Differences:

You are not required to take a minimum distribution from a Roth IRA, but you are required to begin taking RMD's from the Roth TSP.

There are income restrictions to contribute to a Roth IRA; however, there are NO income restrictions to contribute to Roth TSP

You can contribute significantly more to the Roth TSP than a Roth IRA. Depending on your income and age, the maximum contribution level for the Roth TSP is \$23,000 vs. \$6,500 for a Roth IRA



Considerations Before Deciding to Use the Roth TSP

- 1. Your current tax bracket how much room do you have in your current tax bracket for additional taxable income?
- 2. Once you know how much of your eligible contribution you could make at the same tax rate, you'll want to determine the net effect on your paycheck.
- 3. Today your net paycheck has taxes deferred when you contribute to TSP (which means less money is taken out of your paycheck for taxes). Taxes are paid up front on contributions to the Roth TSP (which means more money will come out of your paycheck for taxes)
- 4. Contributing to the Roth TSP can take the uncertainty out of future tax rates and their impact on your retirement income



2015 Marginal Income Tax Rates

Table 1. 2015 Taxable Income Brackets and Rates (Estimates)

Rate	Single Filers	Married Joint	Head of Household Filers
10%	\$0 to 9,225	\$0 to \$18,450	\$0 to \$13,150
15%	\$9,225 to \$37,450	\$18,450 to \$74,900	\$13,150 to \$50,200
25%	\$37,450 to \$90,750	\$74,900 to \$151,200	\$50,200 to \$128,600
28%	\$90,750 to \$189,300	\$151,200 to \$230,450	\$129,500 to \$208,850
33%	\$189,300 to \$411,500	\$230,450 to \$411,500	\$208,850 to \$411,500
<i>35%</i>	\$411,500 to \$413,200	\$411,500 to \$464,850	\$411,500 to \$439,000
39.6%	\$413,200+	\$464,850+	\$439,000+

Source: Tax Foundation 2014



Considerations Before Making a Decision

If you choose to contribute to the Roth TSP be aware:

- -Increased income may affect the tax owed on income tax deductions, exemptions, and the ability to use tax credits (as well as Social Security income, Medicare Part B premiums, if applicable)
- -Increased income may also affect your children's ability to receive scholarships and financial aid

A Roth TSP can be rolled over to a Roth IRA and provide an income tax free legacy for your children and grandchildren



Prospects of Higher Taxes



"Just stop thinking of it as your money, and this'll go a lot easier for both of us."



TSP Options While You're Working

Amount of Contributions

Amount You Contribute to Roth TSP

Allocation

How Much You Borrow

Withdrawals After Age 59 ½

Beneficiaries



Thrift Savings Plan

2015 Contribution Limits –

\$18,000 – under age 50

+\$ 6,000 – catch-up contributions age 50 or better

\$24,000 TOTAL 2015

No Government Match for CSRS Contribution



Accessing Your TSP Account

You will need:

13-digit Account Number Issued by TSP

PIN Number Issued by TSP

You may customize your User ID by logging on to TSP website:

Can change both your sign-on and your password Can now reset your password over the phone!





Thrift Savings Plan

G Fund -

- Offers the opportunity to earn rates of interest similar to those of long-term Governmen securities but without any risk of loss of principal and very little volatility of earnings.
- The G Fund is invested in non-marketable, short-term U.S. Treasury securities with 1-4 day maturities specially issued to the TSP. Payment of principal and interest is guarante by the U.S. Government. Thus, there is no "credit risk."
- The interest rate resets monthly and is based on the weighted average yield of all outstanding Treasury notes and bonds with 4 or more years to maturity.
- Earnings consist entirely of interest income on the securities. Managed in-house by the FRTIB
- Interest on G Fund securities has, over time, outpaced inflation and 90-day T-bills.



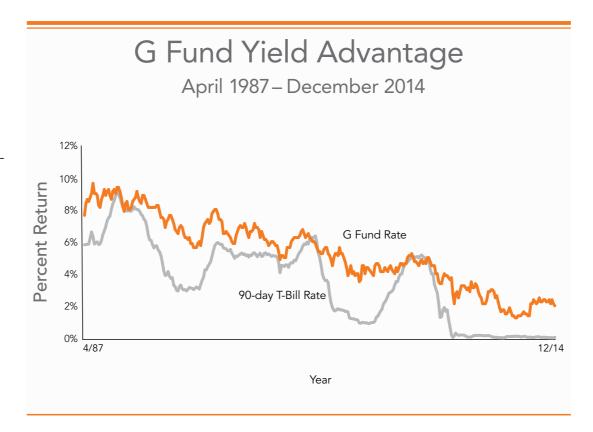
G Fund Facts

By law, the G Fund must be invested in nonmarketable U.S. Treasury securities specially issued to the TSP. The G Fund investments are kept by electronic entries, which do not involve any transaction costs to the TSP. The G Fund rate is set once a month by the U.S. Treasury based on a statutorily prescribed formula (described below), and all G Fund investments earn that interest rate for the month. (The G Fund rate is also used in other Government programs, such as the Social Security and Medicare trust funds and the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund.)

Although the securities in the G Fund earn a long-term interest rate, the Board's investment in the G Fund is redeemable on any business day with no risk to principal. The value of G Fund securities does not fluctuate; only the interest rate changes. Thus, when the monthly G Fund interest rate goes up, G Fund earnings accrue faster; when the G Fund interest rate declines, G Fund earnings accrue more slowly.

Calculation of G Fund Rate—

G Fund securities earn a statutory interest rate equal to the average market yield on outstanding marketable U.S. Treasury securities with 4 or more years to maturity. The G Fund rate is calculated by the U.S. Treasury as the weighted average yield of approximately 125 U.S. Treasury securities on the last day of the previous month. The yield of the security has a weight in the G Fund rate calculation based on the amount outstanding. (The larger the dollar amount of a security outstanding, the larger its weight in the calculation.) The Treasury securities used in the G Fund rate calculation have a weighted average maturity of approximately 11 years.



The G Fund Yield Advantage—The G Fund rate calculation results in an intermediate-term rate being earned on short-term securities. Because intermediate-term interest rates are generally higher than short-term rates, G Fund securities usually earn a higher rate of return than do short-term marketable Treasury securities. In the chart above, the G Fund rate is compared with the rate of return on 90-day marketable Treasury securities (T-bills). From April 1987 through December 2014, the G Fund rate was, on average, 1.80 percentage points higher per year than the 90-day T-bill rate.

Thrift Savings Plan

F Fund –

- Offers the opportunity to earn rates of return that exceed those of money market funds over the long term with relatively low risk.
- The objective of the F Fund is to match the performance of the Barclays Capital U.S. Aggregate Index, a broad index representing the U.S. bond market.
- The risk of nonpayment of interest or principal (credit risk) is relatively low because the fund includes only investment-grade securities and is broadly diversified. However, the F Fund has market risk (the risk that the value of the underlying securities will decline) and prepayment risk (the risk that the security will be repaid before it matures).
- Earnings consist of interest income on the securities and gains (or losses) in the value of securities.

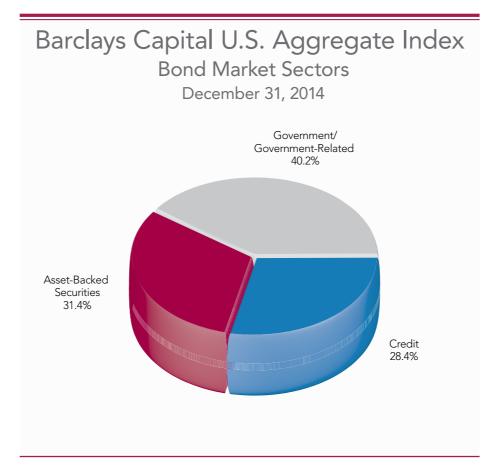


F Fund Facts

By law, the F Fund must be invested in fixed-income securities. The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board has chosen to invest the F Fund in an index fund that tracks the Barclays Capital U.S. Aggregate (U.S. Aggregate) Bond Index, formerly the Lehman Brothers U.S. Aggregate Index, a broadly diversified index of the U.S. bond market.

The U.S. Aggregate Index consists of high-quality fixed-income securities with maturities of more than one year. The index is comprised of Treasury and Agency bonds, asset-backed securities, and corporate and non-corporate bonds. On December 31, 2014, the index included 9,079 notes and bonds. Its yield to maturity* was 2.25%. The average duration (a measure of interest rate risk) of the U.S. Aggregate Index was 5.07 years, which means that a 1% increase (decrease) in interest rates could be expected to result in a 5.07% decrease (increase) in the price of a security. New issues are added continuously to the U.S. Aggregate Index, and older issues drop out as they move to within one year of maturity.

F Fund Investments—The F Fund is invested in a separate account that is managed by BlackRock Institutional Trust Company, N.A. Because the U.S. Aggregate Index contains such a large number of securities, it is not feasible for the F Fund to invest in each security in the index. Instead, BlackRock selects a large representative sample of the various types of asset-backed, U.S. Government, corporate, and foreign government securities included in the overall index. Within each sector, Black-Rock selects securities that, as a whole, are designed to match important index characteristics such as duration, yield, and credit rating. The performance of the F Fund is evaluated on the basis of how closely its returns match those of the U.S. Aggregate Index.



Note: Participants' interfund transfer (IFT) requests redistribute their existing account balances among the TSP funds. For each calendar month, the *first two* IFTs can redistribute money among any or all of the TSP funds. After that, for the remainder of the month, IFTs can *only* move money into the G Fund. (For participants with more than one TSP account, this rule applies to each account separately.)

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^{*} The yield to maturity is the rate of return anticipated on a bond if held until the end of its lifetime (maturity date). It is expressed as an annual rate and takes into account a bond's current market price, its face (or par) value, coupon rate, and the time until it matures. It also assumes that all future coupon payments over the life of the bond are reinvested at the bond's current yield.

Thrift Savings Plan

C Fund –

- Offers the opportunity to earn a potentially high investment return over the long term from a broadly diversified portfolio of stocks of large and medium-sized U.S. companies.
- The objective of the C Fund is to match the performance of the Standard and Poor's 500 (S&P 500) Index, a broad market index made up of stocks of 500 large to medium-sized U.S. companies.
- There is a risk of loss if the S&P 500 Index declines in response to changes in overall economic conditions (market risk).
- Earnings consist of gains (or losses) in the prices of stocks, and dividend income.



C Fund Facts

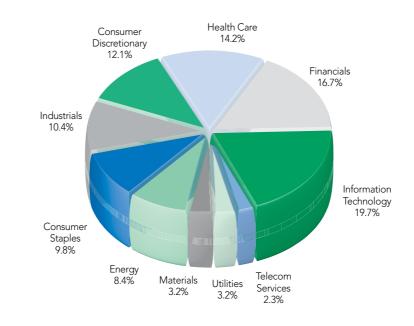
By law, the C Fund must be invested in a portfolio designed to replicate the performance of an index of stocks representing the U.S. stock markets. The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board has chosen as its benchmark the Standard & Poor's 500 (S&P 500) Index, which tracks the performance of major U.S. companies and industries.

The **S&P 500 Index** is an index of 500 large to medium-sized U.S. companies that are traded in the U.S. stock markets. The index was designed by Standard & Poor's Corporation (S&P) to provide a representative measure of U.S. stock markets' performance. The companies in the index represent 156 industries classified into the 10 major sector groups shown in the chart. The stocks in the S&P 500 Index represent approximately 80% of the market value of the U.S. stock markets.

The S&P 500 is considered a "big company" index. As of December 31, 2014, the largest 100 companies in the S&P 500 represented approximately 63% of the index's market value. The S&P 500 Index includes 390 securities traded on the New York Stock Exchange and 112 securities that are traded on the NASDAQ. The market value of the largest company in the index is approximately \$650 billion; the market value of the smallest company is approximately \$5.0 billion.

The S&P 500 Index is weighted by float-adjusted market capitalization, in which a company's market value and its weighting in the index are calculated using the number of shares that are freely traded, rather than all outstanding shares. Shares that are not freely traded, such as the holdings of controlling shareholders and their families, company management, and other companies, are excluded from the calculation. A company's weighting in the index is the float-adjusted market value of the company (that is, the share price multiplied by the number of freely traded shares outstanding) as a percentage of the combined float-adjusted market value of all companies in the index.

S&P 500 Index Major Industry Groups December 31, 2014



C Fund Investments—The C Fund is invested in a separate account that is managed by BlackRock Institutional Trust Company, N.A. The C Fund holds all the stocks included in the S&P 500 Index in virtually the same weights that they have in the index. The performance of the C Fund is evaluated on the basis of how closely its returns match those of the S&P 500 Index. A portion of the C Fund assets is reserved to meet the needs of daily participant activity. This liquidity reserve is invested in S&P 500 Index futures contracts.

Note: Participants' interfund transfer (IFT) requests redistribute their existing account balances among the TSP funds. For each calendar month, the *first two* IFTs can redistribute money among any or all of the TSP funds. After that, for the remainder of the month, IFTs can *only* move money into the

G Fund. (For participants with more than one TSP account, this rule applies to each account separately.)

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Thrift Savings Plan

S Fund –

- Offers the opportunity to earn a potentially high investment return over the long term by investing in the stocks of small and medium-sized U.S. companies.
- The objective of the S Fund is to match the performance of the Dow Jones Wilshire 4500 Completion (DJW 4500) Index, a broad market index made up of stocks of U.S. companies not included in the S&P 500 Index.
- There is a risk of loss if the DJW 4500 Index declines in response to changes in overall economic conditions (market risk).
- Earnings consist of gains (or losses) in the prices of stocks, and dividend income.



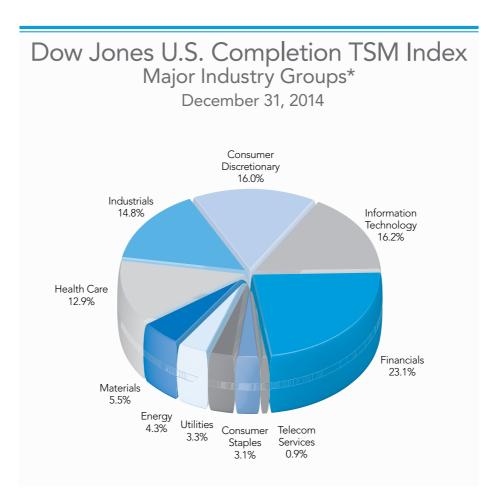
S Fund Facts

By law, the S Fund must be invested in a portfolio designed to replicate the performance of an index of U.S. common stocks, excluding those that are held in the C Fund. The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board has chosen as its benchmark the Dow Jones U.S. Completion Total Stock Market Index, which tracks the performance of the actively traded non-S&P 500 stocks in the U.S. stock markets.

The Dow Jones U.S. Completion Total Stock Market Index is an index of all actively traded U.S. common stocks that are not included in the S&P 500 Index. The index is designed to be the broadest measure of the non-S&P 500 domestic stock markets. As of December 31, 2014, the index was comprised of 3,274 common stocks. The Dow Jones U.S. Completion TSM Index made up approximately 20% of the market value of the U.S. stock markets; the S&P 500 accounted for the other 80%. Thus, the combined S Fund and C Fund cover virtually the entire U.S. stock markets.

The Dow Jones U.S. Completion TSM Index is weighted by float-adjusted market capitalization, in which a company's market value and its weighting in the index are calculated using the number of shares that are freely traded, rather than all outstanding shares. Shares that are not freely traded, such as the holdings of controlling shareholders and their families, company management, and other companies, are excluded from the calculation. A company's weighting in the index is the float-adjusted market value of the company (that is, the share price multiplied by the number of freely traded shares outstanding) as a percentage of the combined float-adjusted market value of all companies in the index. As of December 31, 2014, the largest 100 companies in the Dow Jones U.S. Completion TSM Index represented approximately 24% of the index.

S Fund Investments—The S Fund is invested in a separate account that is managed by BlackRock Institutional



* Due to rounding, numbers may not add up to exactly 100%.

Trust Company, N.A. The Fund is invested in the Dow Jones U.S. Completion TSM Index, which contains a large number of stocks, including illiquid stocks with low trading volume and stocks with prices lower than \$1.00 per share. Therefore, it is not efficient for the Fund to invest in every stock in the index. The S Fund holds the stocks of most of the companies in the index with market values greater than \$1 billion. However, a mathematical sampling technique is used to select among the smaller stocks. The mathematical model considers size and industry group to match the industry weights in the index. Within each industry group, the stocks that are chosen are expected to produce a return that is very close to the industry's return in the Dow Jones U.S. Completion TSM Index. The performance of the S Fund

is evaluated on the basis of how closely its returns match those of the Dow Jones U.S. Completion TSM Index.

A portion of S Fund assets is reserved to meet the needs of daily client activity. This liquidity reserve is invested in futures contracts of the S&P 400 and Russell 2000 (other broad equity indexes).

Note: Participants' interfund transfer (IFT) requests redistribute their existing account balances among the TSP funds. For each calendar month, the first two IFTs can redistribute money among any or all of the TSP funds. After that, for the remainder of the month, IFTs can only move money into the G Fund. (For participants with more than one TSP account, this rule applies to each account separately.)

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Thrift Savings Plan

I Fund –

- Offers the opportunity to earn a potentially high investment return over the long term by investing in the stocks of companies in developed countries outside the United States.
- The objective of the I Fund is to match the performance of the Morgan Stanley Capital International EAFE (Europe, Australasia, Far East) Index.
- There is a risk of loss if the EAFE Index declines in response to changes in overall economic conditions (market risk) or in response to increases in the value of the U.S. dollar (currency risk).
- Earnings consist of gains (or losses) in the prices of stocks, currency changes relative to the U.S. dollar, and dividend income.



I Fund Facts

By law, the I Fund must be invested in a portfolio designed to track the performance of an index of common stocks representing international stock markets outside of the United States. The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board has chosen as its benchmark the MSCI EAFE (Europe, Australasia, Far East) Index, which tracks the overall performance of the major companies and industries in the European, Australian, and Asian stock markets.

A significant component of the return of the EAFE Index (and the I Fund) results from changes in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to the currencies of the countries represented in the index. For example, the EAFE Index returned 7.75% in 2010, but that return included a decrease in the value of the U.S. dollar, which increased the return by 2.93%.

The **EAFE Index**, published by MSCI, is an index of the equity markets of the developed world outside of the United States and Canada. It is the most widely used international stock index. As of December 31, 2014, the index covered the equity markets of 21 countries, as shown in the table.

The companies in the EAFE Index are large companies. The index is weighted by float-adjusted market capitalization, in which a company's market value and its weighting in the index are calculated using the number of shares that are freely traded, rather than all outstanding shares. Shares that are not freely traded, such as the holdings of controlling shareholders and their families, company management, and other companies, are excluded from the calculation. Also excluded are shares subject to foreign ownership limitations imposed by governments or companies. Within each country, a company's weighting is the float-adjusted market value of the company (that is, the share price multiplied by the number of freely traded shares outstanding) as a percentage of the combined float-adjusted market value of all companies in the index. Similarly, a country's weighting in the EAFE Index is the float-adjusted

market value of its stock market as a percentage of the combined floatadjusted market value of all stock markets included in the EAFE Index.

The I Fund is invested in a separate account that is managed by BlackRock Institutional Trust Company, N.A. The I Fund holds common stocks of all the companies represented in the EAFE Index in virtually the same weights that they have in the index. The return on the I Fund will differ from that of the EAFE Index on days when Black-Rock makes a "fair valuation" adjustment to the price of the securities held by the fund. Fair valuation adjustments are made on days when there are large movements in

either U.S. equity markets or currency exchange rates after the foreign markets have closed. Fair valuation prevents traders from exploiting "stale" prices, thus diluting the returns of other TSP participants who invest in the I Fund.

The performance of the I Fund is evaluated on the basis of how closely its returns match those of the EAFE Index. A portion of the I Fund's assets is reserved to meet the needs of daily client activity. This liquidity reserve is invested in futures contracts.

EAFE Equity Index Fund Country Composition

December 31, 2014

Country	Percent of Holdings*	Number of Companies
Europe		
Austria	0.2	7
Belgium	1.3	11
Denmark	1.5	14
Finland	0.9	12
France	9.7	75
Germany	9.2	54
Ireland	0.3	4
Italy	2.3	26
Netherlands	2.8	23
Norway	0.7	9
Portugal	0.2	4
Spain	3.5	23
Sweden	3.1	31
Switzerland	9.3	38
United Kingdom	<u>21.1</u>	<u>109</u>
Europe	65.9	440
Australasia/Far East		
Australia	7.5	71
Hong Kong	3.1	40
Israel	0.6	9
Japan	21.2	314
New Zealand	0.2	7
Singapore	1.6	29
Australasia/Far East	34.1%	470
Total EAFE Index	100.0%	910

Source: BlackRock

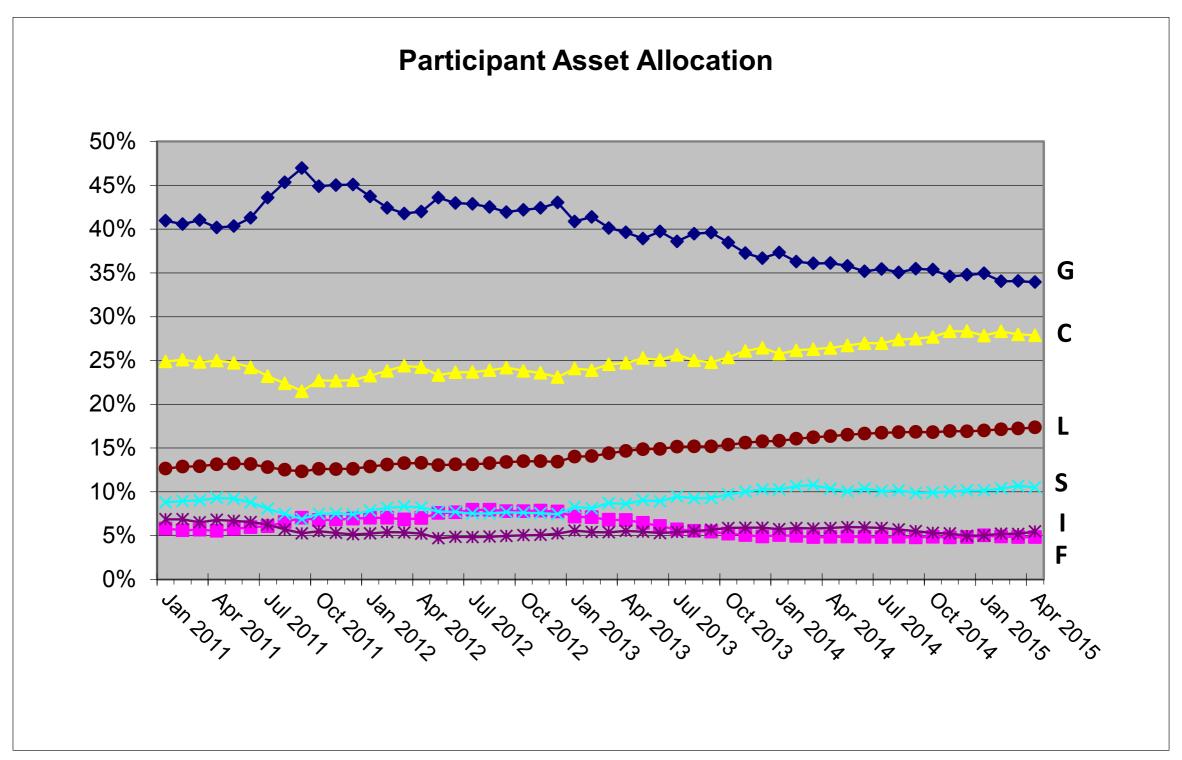
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^{*} Due to rounding, numbers may not add up to exactly 100%.

THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN MONTHLY INVESTMENT ACTIVITY April 2015



Thrift Savings Plan - Funds

Lifecycle Funds - The L Funds provide you with a convenient way to diversify your account among the G, F, C, S, and I Funds, using professionally determined investment mixes that are tailored to different time horizons. Your "time horizon" is the date (after you leave Federal service) that you think you will need the money in your TSP account.

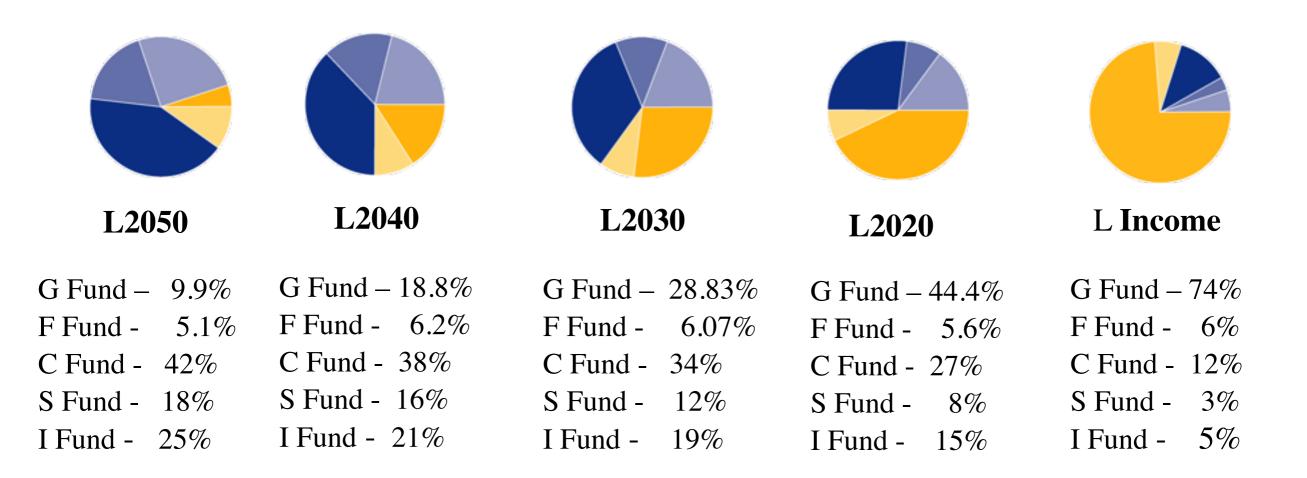


L20??

- The five L Funds were designed for the TSP by Mercer Investment Consulting, Inc. The asset allocations are based on Mercer's assumptions regarding future investment returns, inflation, economic growth, and interest rates.
- The L Funds are rebalanced to their target allocations each business day.
- When a fund reaches its horizon, it will roll into the L Income Fund, and a new fund will be added with a more distant time horizon
- Putting your entire TSP account into one of the L Funds allows you to achieve the best expected return for the amount of expected risk that is appropriate for your time horizon.



Allocations as of July 2015





Allocating Your TSP In Volatile Markets

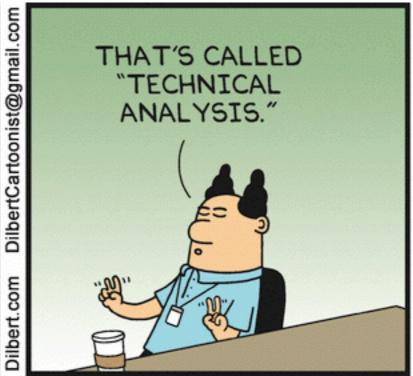
Allowed 2 Inter-fund Transfers per Month

Can Move Funds into the G Fund in Addition to the Inter-Fund Transfers











Allocating Your TSP In Volatile Markets

Considerations:

Assessing Your Tolerance for Risk

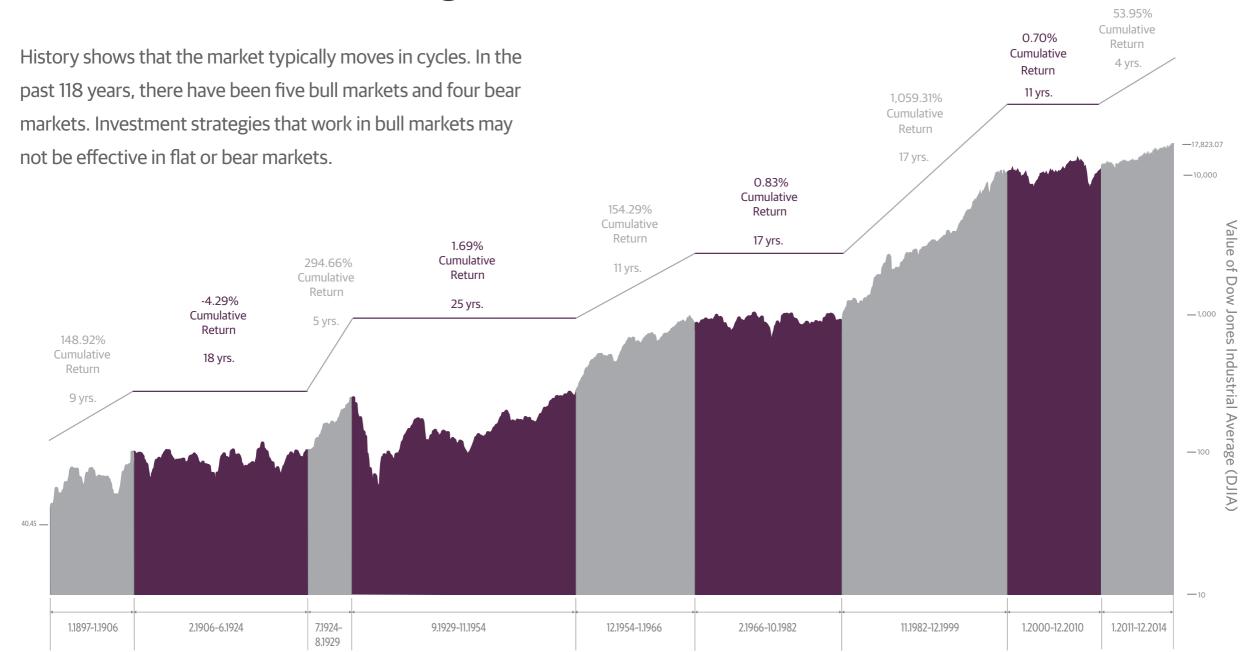
https://advisors.vanguard.com/iwe/pdf/investor_questionnaire.pdf





GUGGENHEIM

Dow Jones Industrial Average **Historical Trends**

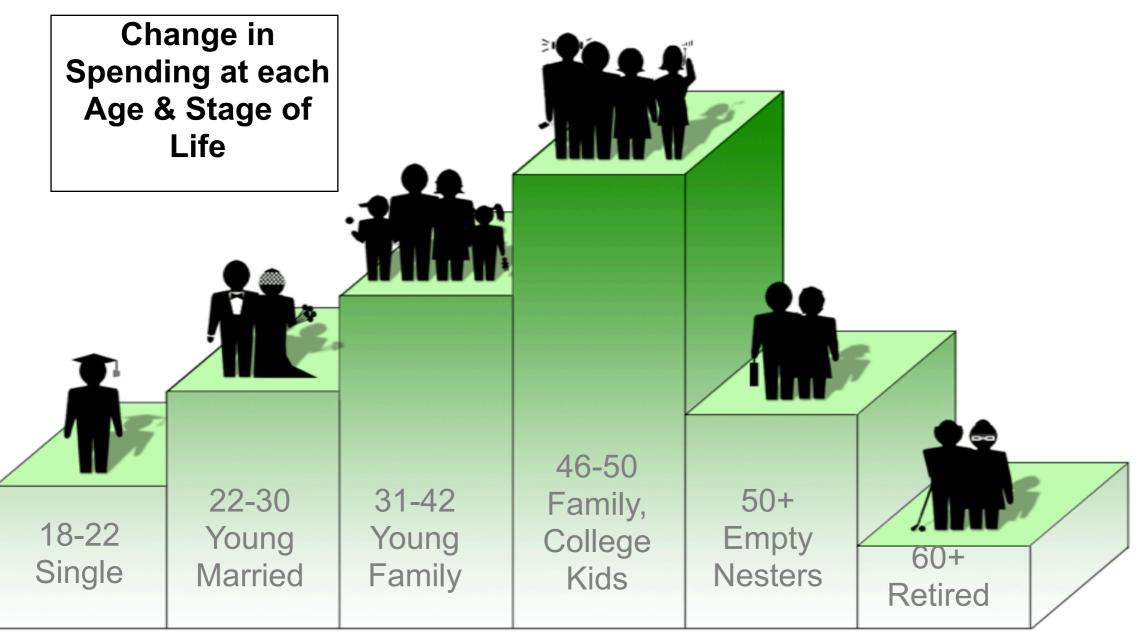


Source: Graph created by Guggenheim Investments using data from dowjones.com. Cumulative returns are calculated by Guggenheim Investments. Logarithmic graph of the Dow Jones Industrial Average from 1.1897 through 12.2014. Bull and bear markets illustrated are long-term secular periods and do not necessarily indicate all bull or bear market periods, which may differ based on methodology utilized. For this analysis, we considered the end of a bull market when the index drops below its peak and stays there for a significant period of time.

Performance displayed represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results. For more information call 800.345.7999 or visit guggenheiminvestments.com.

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The bigger picture...



Source: H.S. Dent Foundation







Allocating Your TSP In Volatile Markets

Considerations:

Assessing Your Tolerance for Risk

https://advisors.vanguard.com/iwe/pdf/investor_questionnaire.pdf

Past Performance

Look at historical returns on www.tsp.gov



10-year Average Returns

Year	G Fund	F Fund	C Fund	S Fund	I Fund
2005	4.49%	2.40%	4.96%	10.45%	13.63%
2006	4.93%	4.40%	15.79%	15.30%	26.32%
2007	4.87%	7.09%	5.54%	5.49%	11.43%
2008	3.75%	5.45%	(36.99%)	(38.32%)	(42.43%)
2009	2.97%	5.99%	26.68%	34.85%	30.04%
2010	2.81%	6.71%	15.07%	29.06%	7.94%
2011	2.45%	7.89%	2.11%	(3.38%)	(11.81%)
2012	1.47%	4.29%	16.07%	18.57%	18.62%
2013	1.89%	(1.68%)	32.45%	38.35%	22.13%
2014	2.31%	6.73%	13.78%	7.8%	(5.27%)
10-yr Avg	3.12%	4.89%	7.72%	9.44%	4.57%



10-year Average Returns

Year	L Income	L 2020	L 2030	L 2040	L 2050
2005*	2.15%	3.40%	3.59%	3.92%	
2006	7.59%	13.72%	15.00%	16.53%	
2007	5.56%	6.87%	7.14%	7.36%	
2008	(5.09%)	(22.77%)	(27.50%)	(31.53%)	
2009	8.57%	19.14%	22.48%	25.19%	
2010	5.74%	10.59%	12.48%	13.89%	
2011	2.23%	0.41%	(0.31%)	(0.96%)	
2012	4.77%	10.42%	12.61%	14.27%	15.85%
2013	6.97%	16.03%	20.16%	23.23%	26.20%
2014	3.77%	5.06%	5.74%	6.22%	6.37%
10-yr Avg	4.15%	5.62%	6.16%	6.51%	



Year-to Date Returns as of 6/30/2015

G Fund - .96%

F Fund - .50%

C Fund - 1.26%

S Fund - 4.96%

I Fund - 6.52%

L Income- 1.39%

L 2020 - 2.24%

L 2030 - 2.63%

L 2040 - 2.91%

L 2050 - 3.22%



Allocating Your TSP In Volatile Markets

Considerations:

Assessing Your Tolerance for Risk

https://advisors.vanguard.com/iwe/pdf/investor_questionnaire.pdf

Past Performance

Look at historical returns on www.tsp.gov

Periodic Updates from TSP

Go to www.tsp.gov and Click on "Get e-mail updates Click on the icon to subscribe and you'll receive automatic updates by e-mail from TSP

Outside Resources





Mail Barcoding

\$300.0 Address Line 5 Address Line 2 Gry. State Zo Code

How your account value changed in 20YY

Value orsulancing 1, 20VV

Shange in visue this year

Value on Depender 14, 2017

A summary of the activity in your account for the year. If you have only one type of fulunce, you will see only one column of numbers.

You are always varied in Smithed to keep you nown contributions and your ligency lists ting. Spokening resident pour unimental ment separation acquirement dina extradric seepyour Agency Autorians of high complicions, there your persenting expurement in the basis Account Number box to the right L



Non-vested, active FERS employees only.

Your 5-Year Account Balance History



Your 20YY Annual Statement

Account Number: 1234 5678 91011

Retrement Coverage : if this informa-Employment Status: | tion is correct.

Check to see

Service Required for Vesting: < Legal Residence: 🐗

Uniformed service members only

Will you be ready for retirement?

Your 12(31)20YY account balance would provide yau a lifetime TSP morthly amount of

- "Age 60, or your promotion from the other "A study feeting is with tred control territory."
- Officers of the second second second second

Tricks of the amount in your account as a source of morthly income in your relitement years cultivat has as a single som of money. If your account balance were twice your current balance, your let memorahly amount would be tyles the arrount shown above, and so on. Use the New Mich IS 6 My Savings. Gray? calculator on the TSP website to estimate how your account might grow rate herat.

For FERS only, vesting pertains to Agency Automatic (1%) Contributions.

★ If you have at least \$20,000 in your account, this. space will show you the estimated TSP monthly annuity amount you could expect to receive in retirement until the end of your life, using your end-of-year account balance.

> To estimate what your account balance would actually be when you are ready to withdraw your account in retirement, use the How Much Will My Savings Grow? calculator on the TSP website.

Check this section carefully. It shows all the informa-Custom ID Created: mmiddlyyyy Web Password Date: mm/dd/yyyy tion we have for you in your account profile. If you 1 your Web Access: Blocked Visit www.tsp.gov ThriffLine PIN Date: mm/dd/yyyy think there are errors in any of this information, call ThriffLine: 1-TSP-YOU-FRST (1-877-968-3776). ThriffLine Access: Blocked the ThriftLine and speak to a Participant Service neview Quarterly Statements: Electronic your Annual Statements: Mailed

Conservatorship: On File

Account Hold: Yes

account

profile.

Representative. Power of Attorney or Quardianship!

In this section, you can compare your annual. account balances for the statement year and up to four pecceling years.

Questions?

Outside the U.S. and Canada: 404-233-4400 TDO: 1-TSP-THRIFTS (1-877-847-4385)

To correct any of your personal information, contact your agency.

This information depends on your employment status and may be different on your statement.

Thrift Savings Plan - Fees

2014 Expense Fees = .0285%

Use low-cost index funds



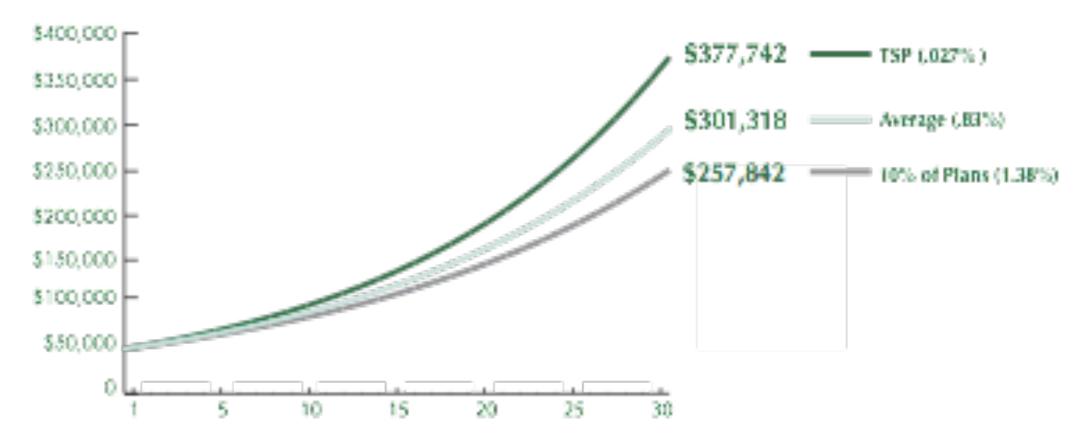
- Keep it simple only five funds available
- Huge economies of scale competitive procurement
- Use commingled trust funds instead of individual accounts
- Only invest one amount per fund each day
- Individual accounts are maintained in TSP



Long-term Effects of Lower Fees

Average Fee in Defined Contribution Plan - \$8.30/\$1,000 10% of Defined Contribution Plans Have Fees - \$13.80/\$1,000

Long-term effect of paying less to invest? You save more — a lot more. Compare how \$50,000 will grow over 30 years at various fee levels (and a 7% annual rate of return).



^{*} Deloitte, "Inside the Structure of Defined Contribution/401(k) Plan Fees: A Study Assessing the Mechanics of the 'All-In' Fee.". Investment Company Institute, 2011.



Know Your Investment Costs

- Do not focus solely on the rate of return of an investment
- Before investing, be sure you understand both the initial expenses and the annual expenses (fees) that will lower your investment returns over time
- If you use brokerage or a financial adviser, be sure you know the amount of broker commission or adviser's annual fee before you invest



Tips for Maximizing Your TSP

Don't contribute too much, too soon

Develop a strategy/plan for monitoring your
funds

- What's the overall state of the economy
- What are you willing to risk
- How does your current allocation fit your retirement plan
- If you have had a loss, what's your recovery plan



Types of TSP Loans



General Purpose No documentation required



Residential
For purchase or construction
of a primary residence



and

TSP Loans

- Two Types of TSP Loans May have one of each General 1-5 years to repay No documentation Residential 1-15 years to repay Documentation
- Apply Online or Paper Application (TSP-20)
- Current Interest Rate 2.25%
- Amounts You Can Borrow
 - Must borrow at least \$1,000
 - 50% of current vested balance up to \$50,000
- After Repaying Loan Must Wait 60 Days to Borrow Again



TSP Loans

- Risks –
- Loan payments may cause you to contribute less to your TSP
- If your TSP earns a higher return than the loan interest rate, there will be less in TSP
- Residential loans are not considered mortgages and interest is not deductible on tax return
- Your loan is paid back with after-tax dollars



TSP Withdrawal Options

Once you've separated from Federal service or the uniformed services, you are required to make a withdrawal choice for your TSP account balance by April 1 of the year following the year you become age 701/2.

You **do not** have to withdraw your TSP account all at once (though you have this choice). However, you must start to withdraw the IRS "Required Minimum Distribution" which is the amount that you must withdraw each year.



TSP Withdrawal Options - Cont'd

You can choose to:

- Receive TSP monthly payments (you can change the dollar amount during the annual change period at the end of each calendar year);
- A life annuity;
- Withdraw part of your TSP account; or
- Any combination of those three options.
 For more details, see www.tsp.gov/PDF/formspubs/tspbk02.pdf



Creating Income From Your TSP in Retirement

Two Chances to Take Distributions at Retirement -

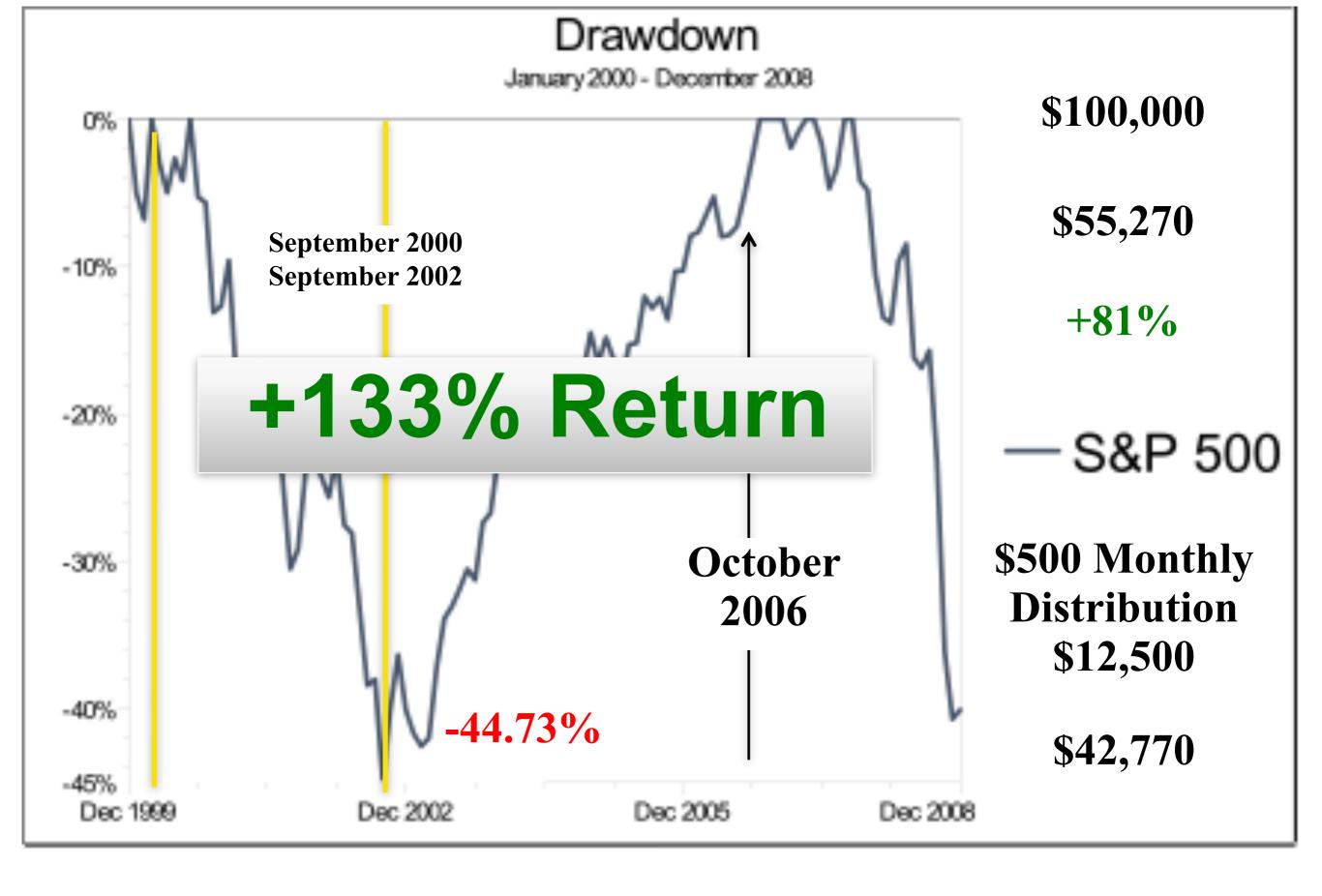
Partial withdrawal using Form TSP-77 Full withdrawal using Form TSP-70

OR

Create an immediate annuity through TSP (Met Life) Current Rate 2.25%







2 Brothers, 2 (Different) Retirements

- Two Brothers, Steve and Bill, each retire with \$500,000 in their Thrift Savings Plan
- Both Will Use \$30,000 Annually for Income
- Steve retires in 1990; Bill retires in 2000
- The result?





Income and Sequence of Returns

Steve Retired in 1990



Year	Return	WD	Balance
1990	-4.34%	\$ 30,000	\$ 449,602
1991	20.32%	\$ 30,000	\$ 504,865
1992	4.17%	\$ 30,000	\$ 494,667
1993	13.72%	\$ 30,000	\$ 528,419
1994	2.14%	\$ 30,000	\$ 509,085
1995	33.45%	\$ 30,000	\$ 639,340
1996	26.01%	\$ 30,000	\$ 767,829
1997	22.64%	\$ 30,000	\$ 904,873
1998	16.10%	\$ 30,000	\$ 1,015,728
1999	25.22%	\$ 30,000	\$ 1,234,328

Bill Retired in 2000

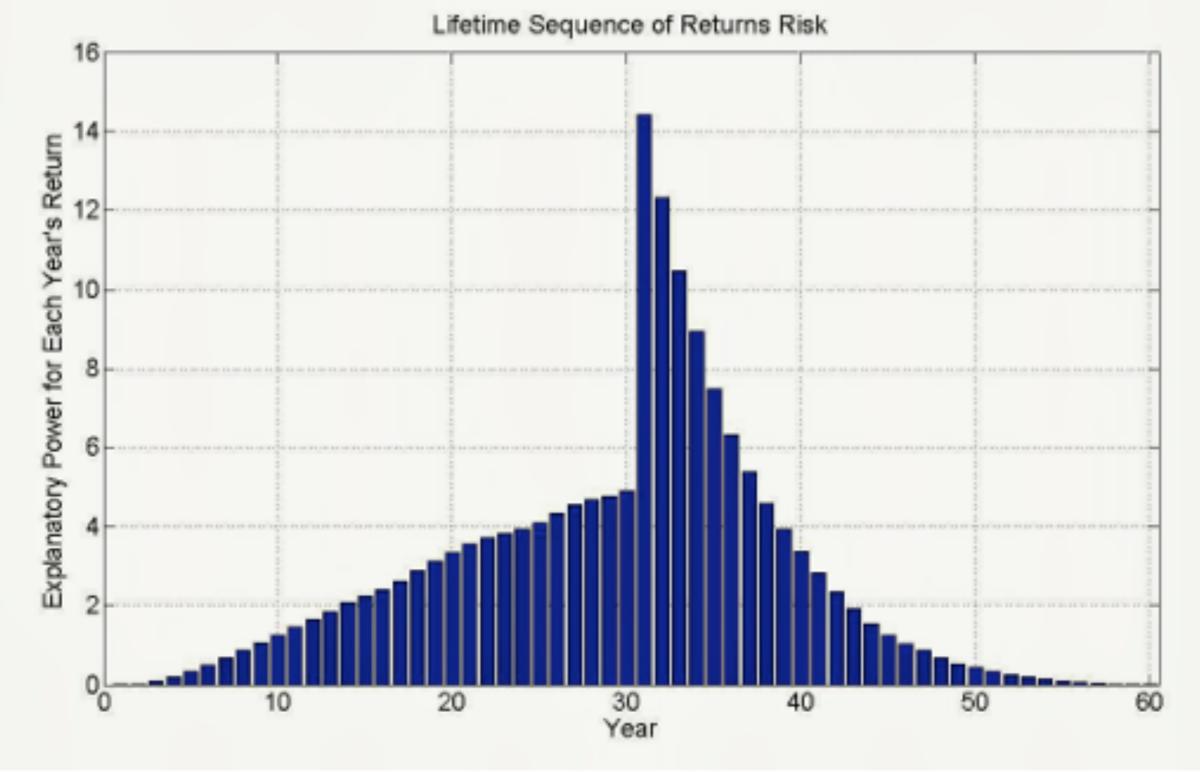


Year	Return	WD	Balance
2000	-6.18%	\$ 30,000	\$ 440,954
2001	-7.10%	\$ 30,000	\$ 381,776
2002	-16.76%	\$ 30,000	\$ 292,819
2003	25.32%	\$ 30,000	\$ 329,364
2004	3.15%	\$ 30,000	\$ 308,794
2005	-0.61%	\$ 30,000	\$ 277,094
2006	16.29%	\$ 30,000	\$ 287,345
2007	6.43%	\$ 30,000	\$ 273,892
2008	-33.84%	\$ 30,000	\$ 161,359
2009	18.82%	\$ 30,000	\$ 156,081

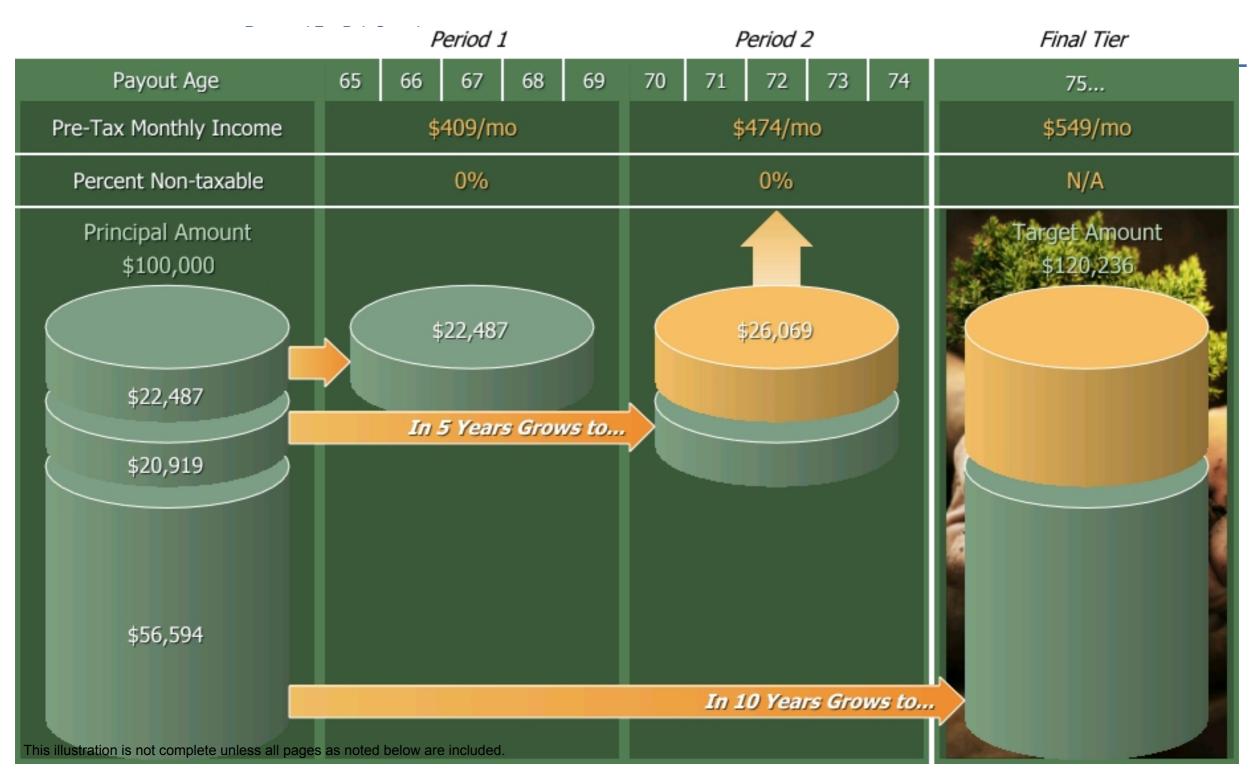
This hypothetical example is for illustrative purposes only, and should not be deemed a representation of past or future results, and is no guarantee of return or future performance. This example does not represent any specific product and/or service.

Source: Forecastchart.com - The Dow Jones Industrial Average is an index of 30 large, publicly traded companies based in the United States. Investors cannot invest directly in an index. Dividends are not included.





What the figure shows is how much each year's return impacts the financial planning outcomes. For the first 30 years, what we see is the percentage of the final wealth accumulation at the retirement date which can be explained by the investment return experienced in years 1-30. What we observe is that with wealth so low at the beginning, the early returns have very little impact on the final result. A given percent change in the portfolio value does not have much impact on the absolute amount of wealth accumulated at the end. It is the returns experienced at the end of the 30-year period which have the biggest impacts on the final wealth accumulation, as this is when a given percentage change in the portfolio value has the biggest impact on absolute wealth. Individuals are especially vulnerable to these returns as they approach their retirement date.



Variable annuities are long-term insurance products designed for retirement purposes and are not intended for everyone. The account value of a variable annuity will fluctuate up and down based on the current performance of the underlying investment options, and the investor may experience a gain or loss even when an optional protection benefit rider is elected. Annuities are not insured by any federal agency, including the FDIC. All guarantees are subject to the claims-paying ability of the issuing insurance company.

The information provided in this report is a hypothetical illustration of mathematical principles only. The information presented may vary from your actual results and is not intended to represent any specific product or strategy. Risk is an inherent part of investing and your investment may lose value. Investment return, rates of return and principal values fluctuate over time so that an investment may be worth more or less than its original cost. Tax rates are subject to change and will vary depending upon income. Future tax law changes may significantly affect the after-tax income illustrated in this report.

Page 1 of 2

Investing Outside the TSP

Common investment avenues outside the TSP are:

- Broker Dealers
- Investment Advisers
- Funds
- Insurance Companies



If you Choose to Invest Outside the TSP, Know who You're Dealing With!

The Securities and Exchange Commission has an Investment Adviser Public Disclosure website: http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov/IAPD/Content/IapdMain/iapd_SiteMap.aspx

You can learn more about brokers and their representatives through the FINRA webpage: www.finra.org/Investors/ToolsCalculators/BrokerCheck

For accredited designations of financial professionals, use the link:

http://www.finra.org/Investors/ToolsCalculators/ProfessionalDesignations/AccreditedDesignations/index.htm



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	b0% Life Annuity (Must equal \$3,500 or more. Al:	so complete	Page 6	5.1			
1	c0% TSP Monthly Payments → Tell us how to pa	y your mont	hly pay	ments:			
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VI.	CERTIFICATION AND NOTARIZATION — This section is required age, as well as the Withdrawal Booklet and the TSP tax notice, and the cable. I certify that the information I have provided on all pages of this Also, I certify that I am separated from Federal service and that I do not 31 days of my separation. Warning: Any intentional false statement in it is a violation of law that is punishable by a fine or imprisonment for a	at I understa form is true of expect to b this applicat	nd that and co be rehir tion or t	my with mplete t red by th willful m	drawa to the l e Fede	I election is best of my k tral Governr resentation (irrevo- nowledge.
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Beneficiary Designations

Form TSP -3 to Name Beneficiaries

If no TSP-3 on file at death, TSP is distributed according to Order of Precedence

- * To widow or widower
- * If none, to child or children equally and to descendants of deceased children by representation
- * If none, to parents equally or to the surviving parent





Costs - Premiums

2015 premiums averaged a 3.4% increase from 2014 premiums Premiums are available for Self and Self & Family OPEN SEASON 2016 - Self + One becomes available (November 2015)

The government pays the lesser of:

72% of the average total premium of all plans weighted by the number of enrollees in each

OR

75% of the premium for the specific plan you choose



While employed, premiums are paid using premium conversion provision – paid with pre-tax dollars. Retirees cannot participate in premium conversion.

FEHB continues into retirement if you:

- Were insured on your retirement date
- Retired on an immediate annuity
- Were enrolled or covered as a family member for the 5 years immediately preceding retirement or since first opportunity to enroll



Open Season

From 2nd Monday in November to 2nd Monday in December, you can:

- Enroll in, change or cancel an existing enrollment in a health plan under the FEHB Program.
- Enroll in, change, or cancel an existing enrollment in a dental plan.
- Enroll in, change, or cancel an existing enrollment in a vision plan.
- Enroll in a flexible savings account (health care or dependent care). You must re-enroll each year.



Ground Rules

- No pre-existing condition clause.
- All plans provide coverage against catastrophic medical costs, but there are differences of almost \$10,000 in limits from best to worst. It pays to understand what's included in the out-of-pocket limit.
- No re-enrollment to stay in same plan.
- Must re-enroll in a flexible savings account (health care or dependent care) each year.



How Does the Affordable Care Act Affect Your FEHB?

Children up to the age of 26 can be covered under their parent's plan.

Flexible Spending Accounts contributions are limited to \$2,550/year for medical expenses.

Flexible Spending Accounts may not be used to purchase over-the-counter medications.



1. Before you pick your plan, assess your own health needs.

A. What types of procedures do you need covered by insurance. Evaluate your medical expenses from the previous year and consider upcoming health needs for you and your dependents.

B. What are your health care priorities? Once you know your priorities concerning costs, coverage, and convenience of health care, the field of choices begins to narrow.

C. How much can you afford? Saving money is one thing, but that doesn't necessarily equate to selecting the cheapest plan.



2. Talk to your doctor's office.

A. While you may understand your body best, your doctor can provide key insights into any upcoming procedures or prescriptions.

B. What plans are your providers with? It's more important to select your doctor first and plan second based on your doctor's network.



3. Know your age bracket.

A. Young and single - you may want to consider an inexpensive plan that will at least cover annual exams. An HMO or a HDHP may be a good alternative for you.

B. Couples with kids - your decision will center around pregnancy and child healthcare. Some FEHB plans provide special benefits for pregnancy that include maternity care, before, after and during delivery.

© wondercliparts.co

C. Those nearing retirement - as you near age 65, you'll want to give serious consideration to how your FEHB interacts with Medicare.



4. Don't let bureaucratic language scare you.

Only 9% of FEHB participants change plans in any given year. Plan documents can be daunting and comparing plans can seem next to impossible. Take the time to look into your benefits which can save you money and heartache in the long run.





Demystifying FEHB

Start your research by determining how each of the four primary factors play into your situation.

- 1. Coverage
- 2. Cost
- 3. Choice
- 4. Convenience





Choosing Your Plan -

Health Maintenance Organization "HMO" – Choose a primary care physician (PCP) from a list of member physicians. The PCP provides general medical care and must provide a referral to see a specialist (who must also be part of the HMO).

No coverage for out-of-network care (except emergencies)

Typically, no deductibles but members often pay a co-payment for care.



- Choosing Your Plan Regional
- Preferred Provider Organization "PPO" -
- Do not have to choose a primary care physician and can refer themselves to specialists.
- Do not have to stay within network, but there is a financial incentive to do so.
- Typically, deductibles are required before benefits begin and can also include co-payments that are larger than HMOs.



Choosing Your Plan - National

Fee-for-service "FFS" w/PPO-

You must use the plan's network to reduce your out-of-pocket costs.

Not using PPO providers means only some of your claims will be paid.



FEHB-Fee-for Service Providers

APWU Health Plan

Blue Cross/Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan

GEHA Benefit Plan

Mail Handlers Benefit Plan

NALC

SAMBA



Health Care Resources

"www.guidetohealthplans.org – non-profit organization that provides comparative information on current federal health plans – Check to see if your agency has paid for **Consumer's Checkbook**

"www.plansmartchoice.com – non-profit organization that provides comparison tool for federal plans





"Heads, you get a quadruple bypass. Tails, you take a baby aspirin."

Eligibility:

FEDVIP provides dental and vision benefits to federal and postal employees, retirees, annuitants, and qualifying family members. You must qualify for the FEHB program (you do not have to be enrolled).

Qualifying family members include spouses and unmarried dependent children under age 22. Coverage may extend to children over age

22 with disabilities.





Plans and Options:

Four national dental plans:

Aetna
GEHA
MetLife
United Concordia

One regional dental plan: Humana Dental





Plans and Options:

Three national vision plans:

FEP Blue Vision
United Healthcare Vision Plan
Vision Service Plan (VSP)

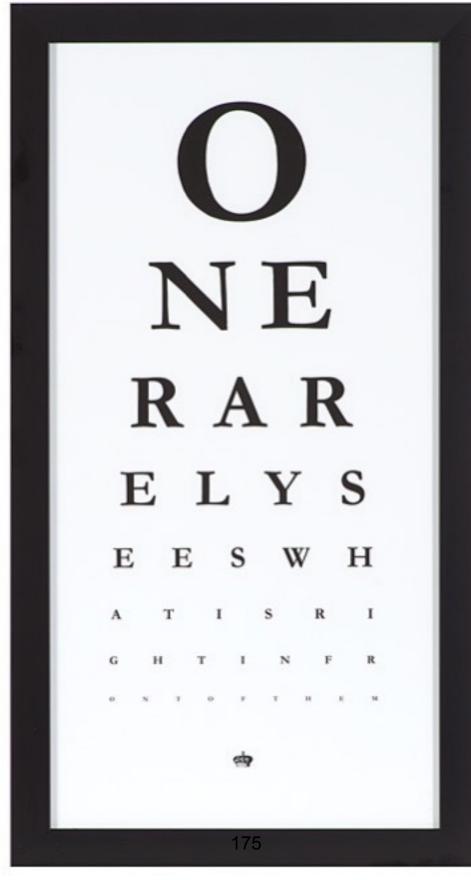




Plans and Options:

Three options for coverage:

Self Only
Self Plus One
Self and Family





Getting Started in FEDVIP

- 1. Do you need separate dental and/or vision insurance?
- 2. Who and what do you need covered?
- 3. Does location matter?
- 4. Do costs play a factor?





Flexible Spending Account "FSA" - Flexible Ways to Afford Healthcare

FSAFEDS administers the FSA which allows you to set aside a portion of earnings to pay for qualified medical expenses. You are able to save on a wide variety of medical, dental, vision and daycare expenses.

For 2015, contribution limit is \$2,550 which is NOT a household maximum.





Flexible Spending Account "FSA" - Flexible Ways to Afford Healthcare

Calculating How Much to Save in Your FSA

- 1. Look backwards look over your healthcare receipts from last year.
- 2. Think forward look ahead, too. If you know for certain you're having surgery not covered by insurance, take that into account.
- 3. Add it up put those costs together to get relatively close to how much you will likely spend next year.





Qualified Medical Expenses for FSA Must Be:

Rendered by a health care professional appropriately licensed or certified in the state in which he or she practices; AND

Performed within the scope of the health care professional's license

Qualified Expenses Include:

Dental treatments

Out-of-pocket expenses

Prescriptions Over-the-counter drugs (w/Rx)

Eye exams, glasses and contacts

Acupuncture

Acne treatments Chiropractors

Immunizations

www.fsafeds.com/fsafeds/eligibleexpenses.asp





and FEHB

If you are covered under TriCare while employed with the federal government, that coverage counts toward the 5-year requirement to take FEHB into retirement.

- You must be enrolled at retirement (you would enroll 1 full year prior)
- You can suspend your FEHB coverage and use TriCare
- You can suspend TriCare and use FEHB
- Provides more options, coverage choices nationwide



Medicare

Part A – Hospitalization
Deductible - \$1,216*
Pay 1.45% of pay while working
Free at age 65



Part B – Medical Expenses

Deductible \$147* +20% after deductible

Pay \$104.90/mo* with MAGI under \$85,000

Pay \$319.70/mo* with MAGI over \$214,000

Part D – Prescription Drug Plan



Medicare

Enrollment:

Age 65 – Part A - within 7-month window of birthdate Part B – within 7-month window of birthdate if retired otherwise within 8 months after retirement

General enrollment is from January 1 to March 31 each year. Penalty for not enrolling "on time" is 10% for each 12 months late.



Medicare

Do you need Part B?

Most federal employees use their FEHB as a Part B replacement. You can have both, but you will be paying not only your portion of the FEHB but the Medicare premiums, as well.

Medicare becomes the primary payor and your FEHB acts as a supplement in this case.



FEGLI

Basic coverage – Current salary rounded to the nearest thousand + \$2,000

Costs .15/thousand = employee share Federal government picks up 1/3 of premium

Option A - \$10,000

Must have Basic coverage to participate Costs increase from \$.30 - \$6.00 from age 35 to age 60

Option B – Current salary rounded to the nearest thousand in multiples from 1-5 Must have Basic coverage to participate Costs increase dramatically at age 55 and beyond



FEGLI

Age Band	* Premium/\$1000/Month					
For persons ages 35 and under	\$0.043					
For persons ages 35 through 39	\$0.065					
For persons ages 40 through 44	\$0.108					
For persons ages 45 through 49	\$0.173					
For persons ages 50 through 54	\$0.282					
For persons ages 55 through 59	\$0.498					
For persons ages 60 through 64	\$1.127					
For persons ages 65 through 69	\$1.343					
For persons ages 70 through 74	\$2.47					
For persons ages 75 through 79	\$3.90					
For persons ages 80 & Over	\$5.20					



FEGLI

Option C– For spouse and minor children Spouse = \$5,000 in multiples of 1-5 Children - = \$2,500 in multiples of 1-5 Children covered until age 22 unless disabled Costs increase from \$.27 to \$3.00 from age 35 to age 60

In retirement – you choose how much of the benefits to keep.



FEGLI

At retirement, most federal employees choose to keep their Basic coverage with a 75% reduction and eliminate their other coverages. This reduces or eliminates the cost at age 65.

To compare coverage and premiums:

www.opm.gov/calculator/worksheet.asp



FLTCIP 2.0 Federal Long-term Care

The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program*

Original coverage was established in 2002 as a partnership between John Hancock and MetLife – managed by LTC Partners

John Hancock awarded next 7-year contract beginning October 1, 2009 – still managed by LTC Partners



FLTCIP 2.0 Federal Long-term Care

The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program*

Available for current federal employees, their spouses/samesex partners

Access to limited underwriting during Open Season



FLTCIP 2.0



The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program*

You make four choices in creating your coverage:

How much? \$50 - \$450/day

How long? 2 years, 3 years, 5 years or lifetime

Inflation? 4% compound, 5% compound or future purchase

Deductible? 90 days



FLTCIP 2.0



The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program*

All tax-qualified plans:

Pay non-taxable benefits directly to you

Start payments when you cannot perform 2 out of 6 activities of daily living (certified by your physician) or cognitive impairment

Provide for the deductibility of premium payments under certain conditions

To calculate premiums or apply for coverage:

www.ltcfeds.com



Taxes While Working

- Your current W-4 dictates withholding from your salary
- Contributions to Thrift Savings Plan reduce taxable income
- Unused annual leave is paid in a lump sum and taxed at the higher lump sum rates (currently ~39.6% + 6.2% FICA + 1.45% Medicare!)





Where Your 2014 Tax Dollar Went

Military: 27¢

Interest on **Federal Debt** 15.3¢

Veterans Benefits: 5.8¢

Food & Agriculture

> **Transportation:** 1.9¢











Affairs: 1.5¢

Science: 1.1¢





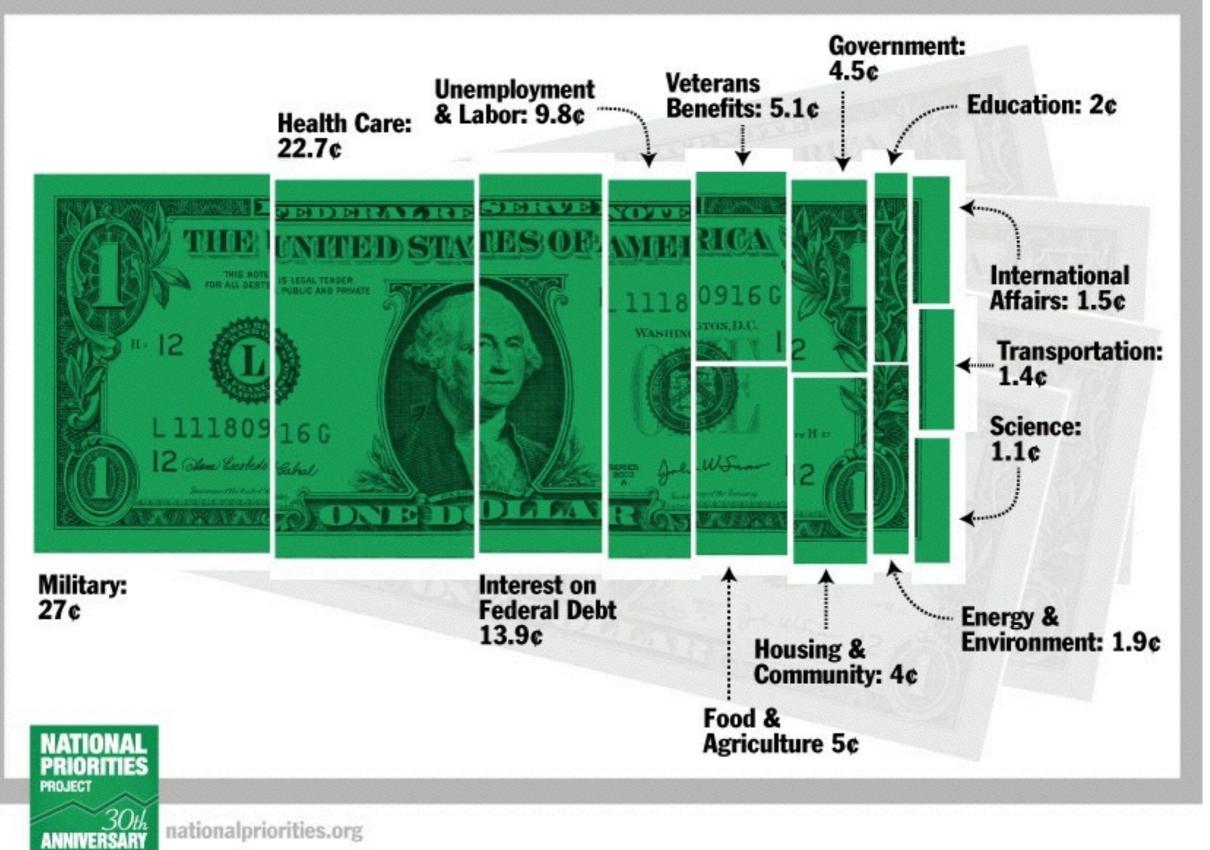




Housing & Community



Where Your 2013 Taxes Went



national priorities.org

Taxes In Retirement

At retirement, you will complete a new W-4P for withholding from your federal annuity

You will elect your state withholding online *after* your retirement claim has been finalized

Unused annual leave is paid in a lump sum and withheld at the higher lump sum rates





The Magic Eligibility Anniversary

Once you become eligible to retire, there aren't a lot of major changes to be made. It's all about planning for the date and making sure all of the pieces are in place for a successful retirement. By this time, you may have paid off your home, put your children through college and be thinking more about where to retire than how.

Here are some things to look at during the final phase of your federal career:

- •Understand the impact your Thrift Savings Plan will have on your retirement income. You are only allowed two withdrawals from the TSP, so you'll want to have a strategy for exactly how and when you'll withdraw funds from the TSP.
- •Consider meeting with a financial adviser to have estimates run for your pension to compare with the estimate you receive from human resources. The human resources estimate will be used by OPM to calculate your interim pension amount until your retirement claim is adjudicated.
- •Review your beneficiary designation forms. These include life insurance, TSP, and FERS retirement.
- •Analyze your options for survivor benefits if you are married. In order to maintain federal employees health benefits if you pass away, your spouse must be covered by at least a minimum survivor benefit AND be covered by your FEHB when you die.
- •Consider your need for health insurance in retirement. You will have the opportunity to change plans each Open Season, but if you're married, you want to be sure you've covered your spouse to ensure access to FEHB in case of your death.
- •If you owe a re-deposit for refunds withdrawn from the retirement system that has not been repaid, expect a delay in the finalization of your retirement claim. OPM will offer you the opportunity to repay these funds before adjudicating your claim.
- •If you have prior military service, make sure you have paid the deposit to allow you to count those years.
- •Determine how much of your FEGLI you need to keep in retirement. By this time, you may have less need for ongoing life insurance coverage. While you do not want to pay for more coverage than you need, you want to be sure you protect your family.
- •Consider changing the number of exemptions for withholding prior to your last paycheck to avoid over-withholding from your lump-sum annual leave payment.





"Here's our new retirement plan — At age 65, we'll get divorced then marry other people who planned better." Ann Vanderslice is a registered representative of Cabot Lodge Securities, LLC and an Individual Advisory Representative of CL Wealth Management. Ann Vanderslice, Retirement Planning Strategies, and Cabot Lodge Securities, LLC and Cabot Lodge Wealth Management are unaffiliated entities